

Holy Bible

OLD and NEW TESTAMENTS

and

TESTAMENT of TODAY

In Condensed Form



UNIVERSAL UNDERSTANDING AND
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ADVOCATES OF THE GOOD LIFE

OUR GOAL - A FULLER LIFE FOR EVERYONE
OUR OBJECTIVE - ETERNAL PROGRESSION
OUR SLOGAN - TO LIVE AND HELP LIFE

THIS BIBLE IS DEDICATED TO ALL MEN.

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Manufactured in the United States of America

This HOLY BIBLE

PRESENTED TO

By _____

THIS _____ DAY OF _____ 19 _____

THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED TO MY FAMILY;
LIDA, MANZANITA, ANTHONY, ANDRE
OCTOBER 10, 1977

THE OLD TESTAMENT

GENESIS

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. He divided the light from the darkness and called the light "day" and the darkness "night". God also divided the waters that were gathered in one place so that dry land appeared. The firmament that appeared by the division of the water he called "heaven". God then created all vegetable and animal life that was on the dry land and he also created the fish of the sea and the fowl of the air.

God said, "Let us create man in our own image and let him have dominion over all things that have been created." So God made man out of the dust of the earth and breathed the breath of life into him. Seeing that man was lonely, he caused man to fall asleep and then created woman for man out of one of his ribs. He placed them in the Garden of Eden, and told them that they could eat anything they wanted except the fruit from the tree of Knowledge. Man was told that he would surely die if he ate of this tree.

However, Eve was tempted by the Serpent, who told her that they could become like God, if they would only eat of the fruit from the tree of Knowledge. So Eve ate some of the fruit and then gave some to Adam. Soon they were driven from the garden by God because he was angry at them for their disobedience. God also placed a curse upon them. He told the woman that she would bear great pain in childbirth and that they both would live by the sweat of their faces until they returned to the earth from which they were made.

Adam and Eve had two children named Cain and Abel. Cain was a farmer and Abel was a shepherd. Cain brought an offering to God from his harvest, while Abel brought the first lamb of his flock. But

God was displeased with Cain's offering, and accepted Abel's over his. Cain was very angry at this so he killed his brother. But God cursed Cain and made him a wandering fugitive.

Cain went to the land of Nod, East of Eden, where he took himself a wife from another tribe, who soon bore him a son named Enoch. Cain then founded a city and named it Enoch after his son, and many more generations followed. In the meantime, Eve bore Adam a third son, who was named Seth. Eve believed that God gave her this son to replace the one that Cain had killed.

The generations that descended from Adam and Eve through Seth were numerous and extended over thousands of years, up to the time of Noah and his family. By this time man had multiplied on the earth. God was sorry that he had made man, because of man's wickedness. God said, "I will destroy man from the face of the earth--not only man but all animals and birds, too."

Noah was favored by God and told to build an Ark. Noah was commanded to place two of every living thing on board so that they might not perish. Noah was also allowed to place his family, his sons and their wives on board. Then came a great flood which lasted for forty days and forty nights. After the flood, God made a covenant with man that he would never destroy the earth again by water. Noah told his family to go into the world and to be fruitful and multiply. From Noah's three sons, the earth was again populated by the many generations that followed into nations and different lands.

At this time the whole world was of one language. The people decided to make a name for themselves, by building a city with a tower up to heaven. So in the land of Shinar they began to build the city out of brick and mortar. God was unhappy with this plan

and so he confused their language so that they couldn't understand one another's speech. The people could no longer build the city of Babel, and they were scattered all over the earth.

After several generations, Abram and Lot were born in the land of Ur of the Chaldeans. The Lord told Abram, their father, to leave his family and his father's house and to go to a land that he would show him. God not only told him that his seed would form a great nation, but also that he would be blessed, and that in him all the families of the earth would be blessed.

Abram's wife, who could not have any children, was named Sarai. Nevertheless, he took Sarai and Lot, his brother's son, and departed for Canaan. God had already told Abram that he would give Canaan unto his seed. But the Canaanites occupied the land which was in the midst of a famine. So Abram soon left for Egypt to escape the famine. But he knew that if they entered Egypt as husband and wife that the Pharaoh would kill him and take his wife from him. So he told Sarai that since she was such a beautiful woman, she could pretend to be his sister while they were in Egypt so his life would be spared. The Egyptians saw the beauty of Sarai, and the princess of Egypt soon commended her to go before the Pharaoh. She was then taken into the Pharaoh's house. Abram was treated well for her sake and his wealth increased with gifts of sheep, cattle, manservants and camels. But the Lord plagued the Pharaoh and his house because of Sarai. The Pharaoh then discovered that Sarai was Abram's wife and quickly sent him away with his wife and all his wealth.

They all went back into the Land of Canaan. But such a conflict arose between the herdsmen of Lot's cattle and the herdsmen of Abram's cattle that they

decided it was time to separate. Lot selected the plains of Jordan to the east near Sodom. A war broke out and Sodom and Gomorrah fell, Lot and all his goods were captured and taken. Fortunately, Abram heard about this tragedy and he gathered his personal army of 318 men and pursued the fleeing armies and recovered all of Lot's property. Upon returning, Abram was greeted by the King of Salem, Melchizedek, a priest of God, to whom all tithes were given.

Now Abram began to worry about how his seed would become as numerous as the stars of heaven, since his wife could not bear any children. In a deep sleep God revealed to Abram the future generations to follow. God said it would be four hundred years before his descendants could realize the dream of possessing Canaan. God told Abram that his seed would be a stranger in a land that wasn't theirs, and his descendants would be afflicted for 400 years. After that, however, they would come out with great wealth.

Sarai suggested to Abram that he should go to her Egyptian maid, Hagar, and produce children by her. So Sarai gave Hagar to Abram to be his second wife and she bore him a son who was named Ishmael. But finally, when Abram was ninety-nine and Sarai was ninety years old, the Lord told Abram that he was going to keep his promise to him. God said that Sarai would have a son whose name would be Isaac, and that the Covenant could be with Isaac's seed and not with Ishmael's. God promised Abram that Ishmael would still be blessed though, and that he would be fruitful and his descendants would become a great nation. God also told Abram that his name would be changed to Abraham and Sarai's name would be changed to Sarah.

Of course, Sarah laughed at the idea of having a

child at ninety years of age. But she was reassured when three messengers of God appeared and reaffirmed God's promise. The messengers also brought news of the impending destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah for their wickedness. Abraham interceded and asked if the Lord would spare the city if fifty righteous men were found there. The Lord agreed, but fifty righteous men were not found--not even ten.

Two angels appeared at Sodom that evening and visited the house of Lot to offer a warning to him. His wife, daughters and son were favored because of their kinship with Abraham. Lot's son-in-law didn't believe the warning. But the angels showed mercy to Lot by helping him, along with his wife and two daughters, to leave the city. One of the angels told them not to look back nor to stay in the plains but to go into the mountains. Lot's wife looked back, however, and was turned into a pillar of salt.

Lot and his two daughters escaped, as fire and brimstone rained down upon the city. Lot lived in the caves of the mountains for fear that they might be killed. The two daughters got him drunk one night and were conceived by him so that his seed would not die. They each had a son which became Moabites and the children of Ammon. Abraham governed from Canaan south to Sogoned in Gerar. He told the King of Gerar, that Sarah was his sister for fear of his life if he had told him that she was his wife. But God appeared to the king in a dream and told him he was a dead man for Sarah was another man's wife. So the king begged mercy from God. Abraham told the king that indeed Sarah was his sister, in that she was the daughter of his mother, but she also was his wife. So he really wasn't lying, but he wasn't telling the whole truth either. So the king gave Abraham sheep, oxen, a manservant, restored Sarah to him, and also gave him permission to

live anywhere in the land he chose.

When Isaac was weaned from the breast, Abraham gave a feast, during which time Sarah observed Ishmael, the son of Hagar, mocking Isaac. Sarah became furious with jealousy. Abraham was very sad because of his son, Ishmael. God told him to not be grievous but to do whatever Sarah said, for Isaac, and not Ishmael, would keep his seed going. So the bondswoman and Ishmael were sent away the next day. Hagar went away very depressed and sad from Abraham's house, and wandered in the wilderness of Beer-sheba. And when all the water was gone, she placed the child under a desert shrub to die and wept. God spoke to her and told her that he would "make the land a great nation." She suddenly saw a well of water appear and she filled the bottle and gave her son a drink and he became an archer and dwelt in the wilderness. His mother took him a wife out from Egypt and many generations followed.

God tempted Abraham and told him to take Isaac and offer him as a burnt offering to the Lord. Abraham took his son, some food, and a sharp knife, and traveled to the mountain that had been shown him to make the sacrifice. He built an altar and laid the wood in place and bound his son and laid him upon the wood. As he stretched out his hand with the knife the Lord spoke to him saying, "Do thy son no harm. I know that you fear God, seeing how you did not withhold your only son from me." Abraham looked behind him and noticed a ram caught in the bushes and offered him as a sacrifice instead of his son. God then reaffirmed his promise of multiplying his seed and said that they would be like the stars of heaven and as the sands of the sea.

Sarah was one hundred and twenty-seven years old when she died. Abraham buried her in a cave on some land that he purchased for four hundred shekels of

silver, from Ephrom, for a burial ground for his family which was located in Hebron in the land of Canaan. Abraham was old and stricken in age, and was concerned about a wife for his son, Isaac. He didn't want him to find a wife among his own country and kindred. Abraham sent his eldest servant who was in charge of all his possessions to go to Mesopotamia to the city of Nahor and bring back a wife for his son. When the servant arrived in the city of Nahor, he stopped at the well and reasoned to himself that the first damsel that came to draw water and offered him to drink from the pitcher would be the right one for Isaac. It turned out that Rebekah, a beautiful girl, daughter of Bethuel, Abraham's brother arrived at the well and did offer him a drink of water. Upon returning with her to her father's house it was arranged and she became Isaac's wife. Isaac loved her very much.

Abraham took another wife, which bore him six more children. He gave all of his possessions to his son, Isaac, and gave gifts to his other children and sent them away into the east country. Abraham died at 145 years of age and was buried in the same burial ground where his wife Sarah had been buried a few years earlier.

Rebekah, Isaac's wife, gave birth to twins. The Lord had told Rebekah that two nations were in her womb, and that two manners of people would be represented in her two sons which were named Jacob and Esau. Esau was born first, and Jacob followed second. As the boys grew Esau became a cunning hunter, a man of the field, but Jacob became a plain man of the field, dwelling in tents. Rebekah loved Jacob but Isaac loved Esau because he ate venison.

Since Esau was the first born he would become heir to all of his father's possessions. Jacob realizing this played a little trick on his brother.

Esau came in from the field one day very faint at the point of death. Jacob had a big pot of sod porridge cooking of which Esau asked his brother Jacob for some, lest he die. But Jacob made him promise to sell his birthright to him for the porridge, which he did, and Esau lost his birthright.

There came a famine in the land and Isaac went down to the king of the Philistines, Abimelech, to sojourn in order to escape the famine. He was fearful for his life, so like his father, Abraham, had done previously, he told the king that Rebekah was his sister. Isaac had been in the land for a long time when one day King Abimelech, while looking out the window, caught Isaac and Rebekah making love to one another, so he knew that they must be husband and wife. He sent for Isaac and was quite mad that Isaac had lied to him. "What have you done to us, one of our people might have lain with your wife, and would have brought guilt upon us." So the king charged all his people that if they so much as touched Isaac or his wife, they would be put to death. Isaac remained in the land and became great. He attained large flocks, herds and servants. The Philistines envied him. One day the king told Isaac that he would have to leave because he now was much greater than they. Isaac departed and went to the Valley of Gerar and pitched his tent. Isaac was growing old and his sight was dim, so he called his first born son, Esau, in so he could bless him before he died, telling him to go out in the field with his bow and get some venison to make some savory meat and bring it to him so that he might eat and be blessed before his death. Rebekah overheard the conversation and was determined that Jacob be blessed instead of Esau. She, with Jacob's help, worked a little deceit on her husband, Isaac. She prepared her own savory meat from two kid goats and sent Ja-

cob in to pose as Esau. Since Esau was a hairy man she placed skins of kid goat upon Jacob's hands and neck knowing that Isaac would feel the hand and neck to identify Esau. Jacob was afraid at first, but Rebekah assured him that all would be well. Isaac blessed Jacob, thinking that it was Esau. Isaac told him that the people would serve him, and that nations would bow down to him. He would be lord over his brethern and that his mother's sons would bow down to him. Everyone that cursed him would be cursed.

No sooner had Jacob left his father's presence that Esau came in from the field with his savory meat of venison and was shocked beyond belief. He discovered that Jacob had already stole his blessing from his father. He cried and wept bitterly with great hurt. He asked his father to bless him, also, even though Jacob had taken away his birthright and also his blessing. Isaac did bless Esau but with some limitations, telling him that by the sword he would live and that he would serve his brother until he gained dominion and was able to break the yoke off of his neck.

Esau was so jealous about what his brother had done that he promised to kill Jacob just as soon as his father had died and the time of mourning was over. Rebekah hearing about this, proposed a plot. She sent Jacob away to find her brother's place in Haran, telling Esau that she wanted Jacob to find a wife there of their kindred. So Isaac blessed Jacob before he departed charging him to take a wife from the daughter of Laban, his mother's brother. He also gave him the blessing of Abraham that he and his seed would inherit the land.

Jacob continued on his journey and came to a well outside Haran. There he met a beautiful girl, Rachel, who had come to the well to water her father's sheep. Rachel turned out to be the daughter of Laban

his mother's brother. He kissed her and wept, and she ran and told the good news to her father that Jacob was his sister's son. Laban took Jacob into his home and wanted him to work for him. Jacob told Laban that he would work seven years for his youngest daughter, Rachel, whom Jacob loved. After Jacob had worked his seven years, Laban gave Jacob his daughter, Leah, his first born instead of Rachel because in his country the first born had to be given first. Jacob agreed to work seven more years for Rachel. Now Jacob had two wives, Leah and Rachel. Leah had given Jacob four sons, but Rachel was without a child. Rachel became so envious of her sister that she told Jacob she could give him her maid, Bilhah, as a wife so that she would give him children. Bilhah bore Jacob two sons. Leah, also gave Jacob her maid, Zilpah, as a wife since she was also now barren. Zilpah gave Jacob two more sons. Leah conceived again and bore Jacob two more sons and a daughter. Rachel also conceived and bore Jacob a son, named Joseph. Jacob felt it was time to leave and return to his own country, so he told Laban he was ready to depart and take all his family, but Laban wanted Jacob to stay even longer because he had been blessed by Jacob's stay. His possessions had increased greatly. Jacob agreed to stay on and feed Laban's flock for awhile longer, if Laban would let him leave with all the speckled and spotted animals. Laban agreed. Jacob removed all existing spotted animals from the herd and placed them in a separate place. He cut green poplar sticks and cut white spots on them and placed them in the watering troughs of Laban's animals. All of the animals that conceived and came to drink brought forth spotted offspring. Jacob now had more herds than Laban and Laban's sons were angry. The Lord appeared to Jacob and told him to return to the land of his father.

Jacob departed without the knowledge of Laban with all of his wives, children, servants and flocks. Three days later Laban discovered that Jacob had gone and took off after him. Seven days later he overtook Jacob, at Mt. Gileal, where he was camped. God had appeared to Laban in a dream the night before, telling him not to speak neither good or bad of Jacob. What could have been a bloody war turned out to be a peaceful parting of the ways, which ended in kissings and blessings among the families.

Jacob continued on and as he was about to enter into the country of Edom, where Esau, his brother, lived. He sent a messenger to Esau bringing news of his return and of his wives and family, and possessions, hoping to find favor and grace in his sight. The messenger returned with the news that Esau was coming to meet Jacob with 400 men. Jacob became afraid that Esau might be coming for revenge. He sent his servants on ahead with hundreds of goats, sheep, camels and asses, as a gift to his brother to turn his anger.

That night Jacob wrestled with an angel while alone. The angel told him that his name would be changed to Israel and blessed him.

When Esau came with his 400 men to meet Jacob, Esau ran to meet him and embrace him and they both wept and were reconciled. Esau hesitantly rejected the gift of cattle from Jacob saying that he had enough. Jacob insisted that he take them. Jacob travelled to Salem which is in Canaan and pitched a tent. He bought a parcel of land and erected an altar, and dwelt there. Trouble arose when the son of a prince took Dinah, daughter of Jacob by Leah, into his house and laid with her. Jacob's sons were very angry that such a thing could happen to Jacob's daughter. They planned to take revenge by promising Dinah as a wife to Shechen, and also to accept mar-

riage among their tribes, if all the males of these tribes, would be circumcised. On the third day, after the circumcision, two of Jacob's sons entered the city and killed every male in the city and took Dinah out. The sons of Jacob took their sheep and cattle, all the wealth, and their wives, even capturing some of their children. Jacob was troubled that his sons had done this and he became afraid that the inhabitants of the land would rise up and slay him, so he and his family left the land and traveled to Bethel under the direction of the Lord. From Bethel they traveled on toward Ephrath, which is in Bethlehem. Jacob suffered another tragedy on the way. Rachel had died, while giving birth to another son who was called Benjamin. Jacob now had twelve sons, and Jacob traveled to his father. Isaac's house was in the city of Arbah, which is in Hebron, and dwelt there.

Jacob loved his son Joseph more than all of his other children. This made them very jealous of him, in fact, they hated him. His brothers called him a dreamer and mocked him. At seventeen years old, Joseph was sold by his brothers to merchants enroute to Egypt, and they told their father that Joseph had been devoured by an evil beast. They took Joseph's coat of many colors and dipped it in a young goat's blood and gave it to Jacob. Jacob mourned for his son, Joseph, who he loved so much. Joseph was bought by an officer of Pharaoh, a captain of the court. Joseph prospered and found favor in his masters sight. He was placed in charge of all his business and became an overseer of his house and possessions. His master's wife wanted Joseph to lay with her, but Joseph would not. When he refused she became angry and caught him by his garments. Joseph fled leaving his garment. She then told the men of the house that Joseph tried to lay with her,

but she began to scream and he ran away, and that he had mocked her.

Jospeh's master was very angry and had him placed in prison. Joseph found favor with the keeper of the prison and was commissioned over all the prisoners, and the keeper trusted him. Pharaoh became angry against the chief and the butlers and had them put into prison. Both men had a dream that worried them and they were very sad. Joseph noticing their sadness discovered in conversations with them, the dreams they both had during the night. He interpreted their dreams telling the chief that within three days his job would be restored by the Pharaoh. He told the butler that his head would be cut off by the Pharaoh and he would be hung on a tree and the birds would eat his flesh. It came to pass just as Joseph had predicted. Joseph had told the chief butler to remember him and to put in a kind word for him to the Pharaoh. It was two years later before he had occasion to mention Joseph to Pharaoh. This time Pharaoh had a dream that perplexed him and the chief butler remembered Joseph.

Pharaoh fetched him from the prison and brought him to the house. None of Pharaoh's magicians were able to interpret the dream; but Joseph told Pharaoh that there would be seven years of plenty, after which would come seven years of grievous famine. He also told him that he should appoint a man that was discreet and wise over the land of Egypt, and let him appoint officers to store one fifth of all the food during the seven years of plenty, so when the famine came there would be food. Pharaoh reasoned that there was no man who could be so wise except the man who had interpreted the dream, so he appointed Joseph ruler of Egypt. During the first seven years, Joseph stored food in all Egypt. He also married the priest of On's daughter, Asenath, and

had two sons, Massasseh and Ephriam. The famine began and there was no food, except that in Egypt.

Jacob sent his ten sons into Egypt to buy corn. Joseph recognized his brothers but they did not know him. In order to test them, he accused them of being spies and ordered them to bring their younger brother unto him. He commanded that Simeon be held until they returned with Benjamin. When Joseph filled their sacks with corn, he, unknowing to them, returned their money by placing it in the sacks. Upon returning home to their father, Jacob, they related their experiences in Egypt and they all became afraid to send his youngest son back with them into Egypt, saying that Joseph is not and Simeon is not and now you want to take Benjamin away also. As the famine continued and the food supply dwindled, Jacob decided to let Benjamin return to Egypt.

Jacob sent gifts of fruit, balsam, spices and nuts to impress Joseph. Upon hearing about the return of his brothers, Joseph made a feast, and invited them to his house to eat. They were fearful thinking that they would be taken as servants and killed. When Joseph saw Benjamin he had to go to his quarters and cry. Washing his face, he returned, and ate and drank with his brothers. They did not know that he was Joseph. They filled their sacks with corn and Joseph again returned their money in the sacks. He also placed a silver cup in Benjamin's sack.

After they had departed, he sent stewards out to search their sacks. Upon finding the silver cup in Benjamin's sack, Benjamin was accused of stealing it. He was brought back to face Joseph. They were really afraid for their lives and also of what this might do to their aging father, Jacob, if they did not return with their youngest brother. They pleaded with Joseph and bowed down to the ground and beg-

ged him to spare their lives. Joseph could no longer hold back. He sent every one of his servants out and he wept aloud, telling them that he was Joseph, their brother, whom they had sold in Egypt. He embraced them and wept on their necks. Benjamin wept too. They had a wonderful reunion. Pharaoh heard about it and told Joseph to send for his father, Jacob, and all his house, and bring them into Egypt to live. Pharaoh gave them the best land. Jacob was overjoyed in meeting his son again, after thinking that he was dead. The both wept. Jacob also blessed Joseph's two sons, saying that the younger son, Ephriam, would be the greatest and that his seed would become a multitude of nations.

Jacob realizing his death was close called all 12 of his sons before him and told them what would befall each of them. Jacob's name was Israel and his sons' seed gave birth to the twelve tribes of Israel. Jacob died at the age of 145 and was embalmed in Egypt. He was carried by Joseph and his brothers back to the family burying ground and buried in the cave that was purchased by Abraham.

Joseph and all his brothers abode in Egypt. Their seeds multiplied into many generations. Joseph died at the age of 110. He was buried in a coffin in Egypt. Before his death, Joseph said to his brothers that God would surely bring them out of Egypt and give them a land that he had promised Abraham, their great grandfather.

EXODUS

The names of the children of Israel, which came to Egypt were: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Benjamin, Dan, Naphtal, Gad, and Asher.

The children of Israel were fruitful and increas-

ed abundantly. There arose a new king of Egypt, named Pharaoh, who didn't know about Joseph. He said to his people, "let us deal wisely with the children of Israel, for they are more and mightier than we". The more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied. Pharaoh told the Hebrew midwives to kill the Hebrew sons that were born, but the daughters could live. The midwives feared God and so they let the sons live. The king of Egypt then said, "all the sons were to be cast into the river". There was a woman of Levi who gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was godly, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no more, she made him an ark, and placed him in flags by the river bank. Pharaoh's daughter found the baby and hired a woman to raise him. When the child was older, she took him back to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses.

When Moses was older he saw an Egyptian beating two Hebrew men, so he killed the man (when he thought that no one was looking) and hid him in the sand. When Pharaoh heard what he had done, he sought to kill Moses. Moses fled to the land of Midian and rested by a well. The priest of Midian had seven daughters who went to water their sheep at the well. Shepherds had tried to run them away so Moses helped them. Jethro, the priest, was grateful for his help and gave Moses his daughter Zipporah. She bore him a son, which he named Gershom.

Then the king of Egypt died. The children of Israel cried because of their bondage and God heard them. Moses had taken his father-in-law's flock and led them to the backside of the desert and came to the mountain of God. The angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire. He told Moses he was the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. The Lord called to Moses and showed him his

power by turning Moses' rod into a serpent. He told Moses to go back into Egypt, to ask Pharaoh to release the children of Israel, so they could follow him. Moses told the Lord that the Egyptian people and Pharaoh might not understand him for he was slow of speech. "Then take Aaron, your brother, along and with me watching over you, you may speak through him."

Moses left to return to Egypt to ask Pharaoh to release the children of Israel, but Pharaoh refused. Moses then showed Pharaoh the Lord's power. One at a time he turned the water in all the land to blood. He then made the frogs come up from the rivers and they covered the land. When that didn't make the Pharaoh release them, he made it rain hail so hard that it almost ruined the crops. Pharaoh still refused to let them go. Moses sent the locust and they ate what hadn't been ruined by the hail. It wasn't until Moses threatened to kill Pharaoh's son that he let the children go.

The children of Israel followed Moses out of Egypt, but Pharaoh's heart was hardened and he followed them with hundreds of Egyptians and chariots. The Lord opened the Red Sea so that Moses and the children of Israel could pass through. They walked between two walls of water on dry land. When they saw that the Egyptians were getting near, they asked Moses to help them. Moses raised his hand, the sea closed over on top of the Egyptians and they were never seen again.

After traveling for three days without water, they came to a place called Marah. The water was bitter and could not be drunk. They grumbled at Moses, "We came from Egypt following you just to die in the desert of thirst." Then he cried out to the Lord who showed him a tree and told him to throw it into the water and the water could become sweet.

The Lord said that if they would follow his commandments and keep all his statutes; he would keep them from the disease that he had put on the Egyptians. They then came to Elim where there was plenty of water.

On the fifteenth day of the second month after their departure from Egypt, they came to the wilderness of Sin and they complained to Moses for bringing them into the wilderness to die of hunger. The Lord then said, "Behold, I will make it rain bread." Moses told the people to gather what each household needed daily and on the sixth day of the week they were to gather enough for the seventh day, which was the Sabbath and no work was to be done. For God created the earth in six days and rested on the seventh.

After three months of traveling they came to Sinai where they set up camp in front of the mountain. Moses saw God and was told, "You have seen what I have done for you; obey my voice and my covenant. Then you shall be a kingdom of priests. These are words you are to tell the sons of Israel." Moses left and went down the mountain. He told the elders God's words and to be ready for the third day in which they would hear God come with trumpets, thunder and lightning. God spoke to Moses and told him to tell the people of the Ten Commandments and the Judgements. Moses told them of these words.

- ...Thou shall have no other gods before me
- ...He that hits a man so that he dies will be put to death
- ...He that steals a man and sells him shall be put to death
- ...He that curses his father or his mother shall be put to death
- ...A life for a life, a tooth for a tooth and an eye for an eye.

Moses then wrote them down and built an altar for them. It had twelve pillars according to the twelve tribes of Israel. The Lord called Moses to come up to the mountain and he stayed there for forty days and forty nights. The people could not understand why it was taking Moses so long up on the mountain. They assembled around Aaron and said, "Come, let us make a God that we can come before and worship." Aaron told them to bring him all of their gold rings and He took the gold and molded it into a calf. God saw what they were doing and told Moses to go back down the mountain for his people were corrupting themselves.

Moses saw the people dancing and having a feast before the calf and he burned with anger. He took the calf and threw it into the fire. Moses saw that the people were out of control and went to the gate of the camp. He said, "Whoever is for the Lord, come to me." All the sons of Levi gathered around him. Moses instructed them to kill every man and his brother. They did as he said. The next day Moses told his people that they had sinned and he was going to the Lord to ask forgiveness.

The Lord smote the people for their sins they had committed. He told Moses to make two tablets of stone and to return the next morning so he could write the commandments that He wanted the people to follow. He said to take from among the people those with a willing heart; a contribution of gold, silver, or bronze; some with blue, purple, and scarlet material; fine linen; goat's hair; ram's skin dyed red, porpoise skins and acacia wood. Let every skillful man come and build me a tabernacle; then you can worship as you travel. Bring oil lighting and spices for anointing and the fragrant incense.

The Lord then told Moses that he was appointing Aaron and his sons to be the Priests and the Minis-

ters of Priests of the Tabernacle and they were to wear finely woven garments. Moses told the people the Lord's commands and they started to work on the Tabernacle. When the work was done Moses blessed the people because it had been done just as the Lord had wanted. The Lord appeared and said they were to wash their hands and feet before entering the Tabernacle and before approaching the altar, because it was a Holy place.

After everything was finished, a cloud covered the Tabernacle and the glory of the Lord filled it. They were not able to enter when the cloud was over it because the glory of the Lord was within. When the cloud lifted, they were able to go about their journeying through Amorite, Canaanite, Hittite, Perizite, and Jebusite. Through all their journey the cloud was upon the Tabernacle by day and fire was over it by night.

LEVITICUS

These are the offerings that the Lord commanded of the sons of Israel. When a man brings an offering to the Lord, it shall be an animal from the herd or flock. He shall offer a male from the herd that is without defect at the doorway of the meeting tent. He shall lay his hand on the head of his offering and slay it before the Lord. The priest shall skin it and cut it into pieces; to offer up the blood to the Lord and sprinkle it around the altar. The Priest shall put fire on the altar and arrange the head and suet over the fire. If the offering is of birds, they shall be turtle doves or pigeons. The Priest shall take it to the altar and ring its neck. Then its blood is to be drained at the side of the altar and it is

to be placed on the fire. He shall then take away its crop of feathers and cast it eastward beside the altar to the place of ashes. When you present a grain offering, it shall be of fine flour and you shall pour oil and frankincense on it. Then you shall bring it to the Priest, who is to take a handful of it and offer it up in smoke. The remainder of the grain belongs to the Priest. When you bring grain offerings baked; it shall be unleavened cakes of fine flour mixed with oil. If you make an offering of grain, cooked on the griddle, it shall be of fine flour mixed with oil. If our grain offering is made in a pan; it shall be fine flour mixed with oil. Every grain offering you shall season with salt so that the salt of the covenant of your God shall not be lacking. When making a peace offering it shall be from the herd, a male or female without defect.

If a priest brings guilt by sinning on his people, he is to sacrifice a bull without defect. He is to slay it and then sprinkle some of the blood seven times before the Lord. He is to pour the rest of the blood at the base of the altar. Then he shall remove all its fat, the kidneys, and the lobe of the liver and offer it up in smoke. The rest of the bull is to be taken out of camp to a clean place and burned on wood.

If the whole congregation commits error without knowing, they are still guilty, but when it does become known, they shall offer a bull and the elders are to place their hands on the bull and it shall be slain. The priest shall then sprinkle the blood seven times before the Lord. He is to pour the rest of the blood at the base of the altar. He shall remove all its fat and offer it up in smoke. He shall do the same as done with the bull of sin.

When a leader sins, he is to bring a goat and sacrifice it as the bull is sacrificed. If a common person sins unintentionally, he shall offer a female goat as is done with other offerings. A lamb is also to be offered the same way. If a person touches any unclean thing such as a carcass of a beast or cattle, even though it is hidden from him, he is unclean and will be guilty. If he touches human uncleanness and it is hidden from him, he is still guilty. He shall bring from the flock a female goat or lamb for his sin. If he cannot afford a lamb, he shall bring two turtle-doves or pigeons for his offering. One for a sin offering and the other for a burnt offering.

If a person sins against the Lord, deceives a companion or found what was lost and lies about it, or swears falsely and he is found guilty, he shall restore what he found or took.

Moses took Aaron and his sons, their garments anointing oil, and a bull for a sin offering, two rams and a basket of unleavened bread and assembled the congregation in front of the meeting tent. He then washed Aaron and took the anointing oil and anointed the Tabernacle. He also poured some on Aaron's head and anointed him. Then Moses clothed Aaron's sons. He next had Aaron and his son lay their hands on the bull's head and he slaughtered the bull. He then took some of the blood and purified the altar. Next he took the fat, the kidneys and the lobe of the liver and offered them up in smoke. He then slaughtered a ram and sprinkled its blood on the altar. He cut up the ram and offered the head and suet up in smoke. Then he presented a second ram. Moses took some unleavened cake from the basket and offered it up in smoke. He then took some of the anointing oil and blood and sprinkled it on Aaron and his sons. They boiled the flesh from the ram and ate it with the unleavened bread.

That which was left of the bread and flesh they burned in the fire. Aaron and his sons had to stay in the tent of meeting for seven days until the period of their ordination was fulfilled.

On the eighth day, Moses told them to take a bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering and to offer them before the Lord. The sons of Israel are to take a male goat for a sin offering and a calf for a burnt offering. They did as they were told and after the offerings were made, Aaron lifted up his hands and blessed the people. The glory of the Lord appeared to all the people. Fire came out before the Lord and consumed the offerings. When the people saw this they fell on their faces.

The Lord said, "These are the creatures which you can eat. You may eat whatever divides a hoof, whatever is in the water that has fins and scales, in the rivers, or in the seas. You may also eat locust, crickets and grasshoppers."

Moses spoke to the sons of Israel saying, "When a woman gives birth to a male she will be unclean for seven days and on the eighth day the flesh of the foreskin shall be circumcised. She will be in perdition for thirty days and cannot touch anything that is holy. If she has a female child, then she shall be unclean for two weeks and remain in the blood of her purification for sixty days. When the days of her purification are finished, she shall bring a one year old lamb to the tent for a burnt offering. She will also bring a young pigeon or turtledove for a sin offering. She shall then be cleansed from the flow of her blood."

If a man has a sore or scab, the priest will isolate him for seven days, but on the eighth day, if he looks like he might have leprosy, the priest will isolate him for seven more days. Then if the scab has spread he will pronounce him unclean, for he has leprosy. When you have a boil that heals and

the place where it was is white or reddish white, then it shall be shown to the priest. If it appears to be lower than the skin, the hair on it has turned white, you will be pronounced unclean, because it is an infection of leprosy. If it is not red, you will be put in isolation for seven days. If it doesn't spread, you will be pronounced clean. If a man or a woman has an infection on the head or beard and it appears deeper than the skin and is yellowish, you will be pronounced unclean. If a man turns bald he is clean, but if reddish white occurs, it is leprosy. If you get leprosy, you will live alone out of camp until it goes away. If a garment has the mark of leprosy, it shall be burned. If a building should have the mark of leprosy, the bricks on which the leprosy is shall be removed and new ones shall be put in.

If your infection of leprosy has been healed, the priest shall take two live birds and kill one in running water. Then he will take the other bird, with cedar wood and scarlet string on it, and dip it in the blood of the slain bird. He shall then sprinkle the one with leprosy seven times to cleanse him. After eight days, he is to give two lambs and some grain for his offerings, and he shall be clean.

If a person has a discharge from his body he is unclean. Where ever he sits or lays, it shall also be unclean. Anyone who lays or sits after him, shall wash his clothes and bathe in water. He shall be unclean until evening. To become cleansed from his discharge, he is to count off seven days and then he shall wash in water and become cleansed. On the eighth day he is to take two turtledoves or two pigeons and give them to the priest before the Lord. The priest shall then offer one for a sin offering and the other for a burnt offering.

If a woman has a discharge of her blood, she shall continue in her menstrual impurity for seven days,

and whoever touches her, shall remain unclean until evening. Everywhere she sits or lays, shall become unclean, just as the man. She shall also give a sin offering and a burnt offering.

The Lord said that whoever slaughters an ox, lamb, or goat, in or out of camp, but not at the doorway of the meeting tent has shed blood. He shall be cut off from the people. The reason for this, is so that they may bring that which they sacrifice to the Lord at the tent of the meeting. If you do not give your sacrifice at the tent, you will be cut off from your people. The life of flesh is in the blood. So, if you catch a bird to eat, you are to pour its blood out and cover it with earth. Whoever eats blood shall also be cut off. You shall not do what is done in the land of Egypt or in Caanan where the Lord is to bring you. You are to follow any blood relative to uncover their nakedness.

Do not approach a woman during her menstrual impurity. You shall not have intercourse with your neighbor's wife. You are not to have intercourse with any criminal, nor shall a woman stand by any animal to mate. It is a perversion.

Do not turn to an idol or make golden gods. When you sacrifice a peace offering and it remains there for three days, it shall be burned. Do not steal or falsely lie to one another.

Do not swear by the Lord's name. You shall not oppress nor rob your neighbor. You shall not curse the deaf or place a stumbling block before the blind. You are not to breed two different kinds of cattle. When you enter a land and plant trees and crops for food, you are forbidden to eat from it for three years. On the fourth year it shall be holy and it will be an offering to the Lord. On the fifth year, you shall eat from it.

When a stranger resides with you, you shall do him no wrong. You are also to have just weights and

balances. If any of you give to the Molech's one of your offspring, you shall be stoned to death. Those who turn to mediums and spirits to play harlot for them, will be cut off from his people.

If you curse your mother or father, you will be put to death. If you commit adultery, you will be put to death. If a male lays with another male, as you lay with a woman, they shall be burned with fire. If a man lays with his brother's wife, he shall be childless. He is to make distinction between clean and unclean animals. If a man or woman has a medium or spiritualist among them, they shall be put to death.

No man shall defile himself for a dead person except for his relative that is close to him, such as his mother, father and brother, his daughters, his sons and his virgin sister. He shall not defile himself as a relative by marriage. He shall not take a woman who is profaned by harlotry or divorced.

If the daughter of a priest profanes herself, she also profanes her father and she shall be burned by fire. A priest shall not approach a dead person or defile for his father or mother. He shall take only a wife in her virginity. If an offspring from your generation has a defect, he cannot approach the altar. No layman, sojourner with the priest, or a hired man shall eat of the Holy gift.

The Lord's Passover is on the fourteenth day of the first month. On the fifteenth day, there shall be a feast of unleavened bread to the Lord. For seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. On the first day of the week you are to do no labors, or work for seven days. You shall present an offering by fire. On the first day of the seventh month you shall rest. You shall not work, but you are to present offerings by fire to the Lord. If anyone works on the Sabbath he will be destroyed. The fifteenth

day of the seventh month is the Feast of Booth. You are to gather the crops and celebrate the feast for seven days. Your generation will know that I had the sons of Israel live in booths when I brought them out of Egypt.

Moses said to bring him beaten olives for the light to make the lamp burn continuously. The lamps shall be a perpetual statute throughout your generation. Then you shall take fine flour and bake twelve leaven cakes. You shall place them in two rows of six on the gold table before the Lord and eat them. The son of a Israelite woman who blasphemed the name and cursed the name, shall be taken out of camp. The ones who heard him are to put their hands on his head and the congregation shall stone him to death. The Lord said that when you come into the land I am going to give to you, the land will have a Sabbath. For six years you shall work in your fields and gather crops. On the seventh year, you are not to work in them or gather from them. The land is to have a year of the Sabbath. You cannot sell your land permanently for it is the Lord's. If a countryman of yours becomes poor then you are to sustain him. He may live with you and you shall not give him silver for interest or food for gain.

If you walk in my statutes and keep my commandments, I shall give you rain. The land will yield its produce and the trees will bear their fruits. The Lord said, "I will grant you peace in the land so you can bow down and tremble. I shall eliminate harmful beasts and no sword shall pass through your land. You will chase your enemies and they will fall before you. I will walk among you and be your God. You will be my people. If you don't follow my statutes, I will appoint over you sudden terror, consumption and fever that shall waste away your eyes and cause your soul to pine away. I will turn my face against you and your enemies will rule you.

You will run when none pursueth you. I will make you nations of food. You will not be satisfied and shall eat the flesh of your sons and daughters. I will cut down your high places and destroy your altar. In spite of this, while you are in the land of your enemies, I will not reject you.

When a man makes a difficult vow, he will be valued according to your evaluation of people. If its male between twenty and sixty years of age, your valuation shall be fifty shekals of silver. If it is a female it shall be thirty shekals. If they are five to twenty years, it shall be twenty shekals for a male and ten shekals for a female. If they are from a month to five years it shall be five shekals for a male and three shekals for a female.

If they are over sixty, it shall be fifteen for a male and ten for a female. If he is poor the priest shall value him. If you give an animal to the Lord it shall be holy, and if you change a bod one for a good one they shall both be holy, and if you wish to redeem it you shall add one fifth of its value. It is the same with your house or your fields. The first born among the animals, belongs to the Lord. You are not to consecrate them. All the titles of the land and the fruit of the trees belong to the Lord.

NUMBERS

The Lord spoke to Moses asking him to take the children of Israel out of their fathers homes with the number of their names from twenty years and upward, all that were able to go to war in Israel. Moses and Aaron numbered them by their armies and there was a man of every tribe. They numbered approximately six hundred thousand. All but the Levites were not numbered, for the Lord spoke to

Moses saying only they would not be numbered, because they were to be in charge over the Tabernacle of testimony that there be no wrath upon the children of Israel.

When the Lord spoke to Moses on Mt. Sinai, he told Moses to gather all the tribe of Levi and present them to Aaron as his assistants. They were to do what he asks at the Tabernacle, on behalf of the people of Israel. Moses and Aaron numbered the Levi males over a month old. The amount was 22,000. The Levites were assigned duties to assist Aaron which were to carry out the duties of priesthood.

In order to keep the camp of Israel from being defiled, God told Moses to put out of the camp, the leper and everyone that had an issue of blood, and whosoever was defiled by the dead. The Lord said to Moses, "Tell the people of Israel that if a man's wife commits adultery, and if he's jealous and suspicious, the man will take the wife to the priest to find out. If she is guilty or not, the priest will take the holy water in a clay jar and mix into it dust from the floor of the Tabernacle. He will unbind her hair and place the suspicion offering in her hand. He will require her to swear she is innocent and he will say to her, "If you have slept with no man, but your husband, be free from this bettered and cursed water and if you are guilty your body will swell and your thigh rot away." If she is innocent the curse will be removed and she will soon become pregnant. That was the test of adultery.

Moses spoke to the children of Israel, saying, "If a man or woman takes the special vow of a Nazarite, giving himself to the Lord in a special way, he may not during the period of his special consecration have the strong drink or wine or even fresh wine. He cannot eat anything that comes from grape vines or even the seeds of it. He cannot cut his hair for he is holy. If you have become holy, you

have to let your hair grow and you cannot go near a dead body, not even if it is the body of your father, mother, brother, or sister. If you do go near a dead body, you must cut off your hair again to become cleansed.

Moses anointed and sanctified each part of the tabernacle, including the altar and its utensils. On the day he finished setting it up, then the leaders of Israel, the chiefs and elders of the tribes, the man who organized the census, brought their offerings. They brought six wagons containing bulls, rams, and goats for tribal dedication gifts. Also, among the offering were silver, plates, bowls, and trays for the dedication of the altar. The Lord had given instructions to Moses to celebrate the Passover at a regular time annually on the fourteenth day of the first month beginning in the evening. Anyone who is not defiled and anyone who is not away on a trip and yet refused to celebrate the Passover at the regular time, shall be excommunicated from the people of Israel for refusing to sacrifice to the Lord. He will have to bear his guilt. If a stranger is living among you, he should do the same. Whatever the Lord told Moses they should do, it was done. One day they put up the Tabernacle and a cloud covered the tent of testimony by day and the appearance of fire by night. When the cloud wasn't visible they journeyed and when the cloud became visible they pitched their tents.

The Lord told Moses, "Make two trumpets of beaten silver to be used for summoning the people to assemble and for signaling the breaking of camp. When both trumpets are blown, the people will know that they are to gather at the entrance of the Tabernacle. But, if only one is blown, then only the chiefs of the tribes of Israel shall come to you. Only the priests are to blow the trumpets. These are instructions to be followed from generation to generation.

When you go to war, God will save you. When you sound the alarm with these trumpets, blow them when you are glad too. These are your travelling instructions.

The people soon complained about all their misfortunes and the angel destroyed those at the far end of the camp with fire. They screamed for Moses to help them and when he prayed the fire stopped. The mixed multitude among them, began to long for the good things to eat of Egypt. They wanted fish, melon, and garlic, but now their strength was gone. Day after day they had to eat the manna, which fell each night from heaven. The people gathered it and baked it in pans. The taste was as the taste of oil. The Lord was angry with them and caused a wind to blow in from the sea, raining quail by the thousands in camp. They had enough meat for a month. However, the meat made them sick. The Lord's wrath was kindled against them and many died.

One day Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because he had married an Ethiopian woman. Also, they believed, that God did speak to them and not just to Moses so they became jealous of Moses. The Lord heard it and so had Moses. Miriam and Aaron came into the tabernacle. God told them that he spoke to a prophet in a vision, but with Moses he spoke face to face. God's anger was kindled against them, and Miriam was sickened with leprosy, but Aaron prayed God's forgiveness and Moses asked God to heal her.

The Lord told Moses to send spies to the land of Canaan to see what the land was like and see what the people were like. Moses told the spies to bring back some of the fruit of the land. Moses sent one leader of each tribe, all together there were twelve tribal leaders. The information they brought back was, that indeed it was a magnificent country,

a land of milk and honey. The people living there were powerful and their cities were well fortified and very large. Anakim giants lived there, descendants of the ancient race of giants. They felt like grasshoppers next to them. They live on the South part of the land. The land is full of warrior. The land is rich, we cut down a single cluster of grapes so large it took two of us to carry them. They brought samples of pomegranates and figs. It was truly a magnificent land. The men said that the people were stronger. They became afraid, saying, Israel would not be able to go against them.

All the people began to cry aloud and their voices rose in a great chorus of complaint against Moses and Aaron. They wished they had died in Egypt. They wanted to return to Egypt and shouted, "Let's elect a leader to take us back to Egypt." Then Moses and Aaron fell face downward on the ground before the people of Israel. Joshua and Caleb said to all the people, "It is a wonderful country ahead and the Lord loves us, he will take us safely into the land. Do not rebel against the Lord." The glory of the Lord appeared to Moses and said, "How long will the people despise me, do thy not believe me even after all the miracles I have performed among them? I will destroy them." Moses pleaded with the Lord to not destroy them. The people of Egypt will say that you were not strong enough to bring them into the land you swore you would give them. The Lord pardoned them like Moses had requested.

The Lord said to Moses, "When the people of Israel finally live in the land I promised and they want to please the Lord with a burnt offering, their sacrifice must be an animal from their flock of sheep, goats or herd of cattle. A special sacrifice must be an animal from their grain offerings. These instructions apply both to native born Is-

raelites and to foreigners, one law for all. The Lord also said, "Instruct the people of Israel that when they arrive in the land that I am going to give them, they must present to the Lord samples of each years new crops by making a loaf using coarse flour from the first grain that is cut each year. The loaf must be waved back and forth before the altar. It must be observed from generation to generation and if by mistake you or your future generation fails to carry out the regulations because of ignorance, one young bull for a burnt offering along with the usual grain offerings and a drink offering must be made. Anyone who deliberately makes the mistake shall be cut off from his people."

There was another rebellion against Moses and Aaron. This time on a much larger scale. Some of the most renown of the men and princes of the congregation began to question Moses' and Aaron's ability to lead and to give them what had been promised. They accused Moses of bringing them up from Egypt, a land of plenty, to kill them in the wilderness and to make himself a prince over them. The whole congregation gathered before Moses and God caused the earth to open up, swallowing up the three men who led the rebellion and their families also. Fire came down from heaven and consumed 250 other men who offered incense and were a part of the rebellion. The next day the children of Israel still murmured against Moses, saying that he had killed the people of the Lord. God was angry with the congregation's rebellion. He sent a plague among them and approximately 15,000 of them died.

The Lord then said to Moses, "Tell the people of Israel that each of their tribal chiefs are to bring a wooden rod with their name inscribed upon it. Aaron's name is to be on the rod of the tribes of Levi. I will use these rods to identify the man I have chosen. Then at last this complaining against you will stop."

God had told Moses that the staff of his chosen would blossom. Each of the twelve chiefs brought a rod and put them before the Lord. The next day Aaron's rod, representing the tribe of Levi, had budded and was blossoming. When Moses brought them out to show the others they stared in disbelief. The Lord then told Moses to place Aaron's rod permanently beside the Ark as a reminder of his rebellion. The people of Israel only grumbled more, saying that they all would surely die. The Lord spoke to Aaron saying that he and his sons and his family were responsible for any desecration of the sanctuary and that the tribe of Levi were assistants. Only Aaron and his sons could perform the sacred duties in the tabernacle itself. If any stranger came to the tabernacle he would be put to death. The Levites were to keep the sanctuary holy so that God's wrath would never again come against the Israelites.

The children of Israel journeyed into the desert of Zin and because there was no water they complained bitterly to Moses, accusing him of bringing them into the dry desert to die. Moses and Aaron went before God. God told Moses to gather the people together and use his rod and that water would flow forth from a rock. Aaron disbelieved God, saying to the people, "You rebels, must we fetch you forth water out of this rock." Moses hit the rock twice and water came gushing out. The people and their beasts drank. Aaron wasn't permitted to pass over into the land of promise because of his disbelief concerning the water and died on Mount Har. Before his death he was stripped of his garments and Moses placed them upon Aaron's son, Eleazar, in front of the people of Israel. They mourned Aaron's death for thirty days.

When king Arad, the Canaanite, heard that Israel had come near, he fought against them, capturing a great deal of them. Israel vowed to God that if he would deliver them and bring the Canannites into their hands that they would utterly destroy them and

their cities. Once again they spoke against Moses and God sent firey serpents. They bit the people of Israel and many of them died. The people repented and asked Moses to make a serpent of brass and put it upon a pole and those who looked upon the serpent would live and not die. The children of Israel journeyed to the land of Moab but the king of Amorites would not let them pass through and made war with Israel but Israel smote them, capturing their land. Moab was also afraid that Israel would make war with him and he sent word to Balaam, his neighbor, to come and visit him to talk the situation over to see if perhaps the Israelites could be overthrown. The king of Moab, Balak, offered Balaam great honor if he would bring cursings to the people of Israel. The Lord spoke to Balaam and would not let him speak ill of Israel to Balak.

Israel abode there but the people committed whoredom with the daughters of Moab and bowed down to their gods. The anger of the Lord kindled against Israel and all the people that committed these sins were slain. The number was 24,000. The children of Israel journeyed throughout the land, eventually capturing all the land. Moses gave all this land east of Jordan to the tribes of Ruesben and Gad. Moses turned command over to Joshua after being shown by God that he would not be able to cross the Jordan and would die. Moses went up into a mountain and saw the land of Canaan. Special meetings were called and the land of Canaan was divided among the tribes even before it was captured.

DEUTERONOMY

It had been forty years since the children of Israel left Egypt and Moses was growing old by now. He had been shown by God that he would not be able to lead the children of Israel across Jordan and possess the land. He would pass away shortly and

Joshua would take command and be the one to lead the children of Israel to the land of promise.

Moses called the children of Israel together and reminded them in his farewell address of all the hardships, victories and judgements that had befallen them since they left Egypt. He reminded them how that only forty people of their seed went down into Egypt but a multitude came out from the generations that followed. Now their numbers were as the sands of the sea or as the stars of heaven. He also reminded them of the judgement of God that they had suffered because of disobedience and admonished them to keep the commandments that God had given them. He continuously reminded them of the covenant that God had made to their fathers and that the land of promise would surely be theirs. He told them that God would cast out many nations before them. That he would smite them and utterly destroy them and give them the land as an inheritance. Moses further reminded them of the mighty deliverance God had performed, with signs, wonders and miracles. He had brought them out of Egypt and they had actually heard the voice of God speaking from out of the cloud. "We are a special people in the earth," Moses told them, "but if in the future generations you corrupt yourselves and provoke God to anger, I call heaven and earth to witness against you. You will surely be driven from the land of promise and the Lord shall scatter you among the heathen."

Moses told them about the code of special laws that they were to observe. They were to destroy the gods of the heathen and their worship places but were to bring burnt offerings, sacrifices, tithes, vows, free will offerings and flocks to the place where they worshipped God. The false prophets and dreamers were to be put to death. Also if anyone served false gods, he was to be stoned to death.

Certain types of animals were to be eaten, others were to be left alone. If they bought a servant of

their own race, he had to be set free after six years of being a bondsman or a maid servant. There were also regulations of feast observances. When they chose a king in the new land, he could not amass wines, silver, gold or to lift himself above his brethern, but he was to write a copy of the laws and statutes and study them and to uphold them. The Levites were the priests and could not inherit but survived by receiving the tythe offerings from the people when they came to offer sacrifices. Moses told them that a prophet would arise from among them and that he would take his place and that they should give heed to him.

Moses continued speaking of rules and regulations that would govern the children of Israel. He talked about the law of manslaughter and the trail for the crime. He talked about the law of inheriting, the laws of attire and the punishment for unchastity, uncleanness and usury, divorce and justice of servants, limitation of punishment and the duty of a brother.

Moses further stated that a curse would be placed upon anyone breaking the rules or laws and that God would smite them with consumption and consume them with fever and with the sword until they perished. the curses were numerous. Moses expressed again that if Israel disobeyed the law, they would be scattered among all people, from one end of the earth to the other.

Moses was 120 years old when he called the children of Israel to inform them that he had passed the command on to Joshua. Joshua was to lead them across the Jordan into victory and the promised land. Moses finished writing the book of law and placed it in the Ark of the covenant as a testimony and witness against the future rebellion of the children of Israel. God said that it would surely come once he died and was no longer with them.

Moses also wrote a great song and taught it to all the tribes of Israel and blessed them individu-

ally. He then went up into Mount Pishah, near Jericho, and looked out over the entire land of promise. He was able to see the land of Gilead, Naphtali, Epharaim, Manasseh and all the land of Judah unto the sea. The Lord told him that this was the land that he had promised Abraham and his seed. God permitted Moses to see the land but told him that he could not go over.

Moses died shortly after this and was buried in the land of Moab. The children of Israel wept for thirty days. Joshua took command of the children of Israel and they gave heed to him. Moses, before his death, had laid hands on him before them.

JOSHUA

After Moses died, the Lord spoke to his minister, Joshua and said, "Arise and go over the Jordan River with the Israelites to the land which I give to them as I told Moses. From Lebanon and the Euphrates River out to the West is yours. All the land that you set foot upon. As was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not fail you. Divide this land among the people, as I swore to their fathers to give it to them. Be strong and courageous and observe the laws that Moses gave you, so that you will prosper. Meditate on this law day and night and speak about it. I shall be with you." No man shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life.

Joshua commanded the officers to tell the people that they were going over the Jordan in three days. They were to be prepared with food and water. Joshua said, "Let the mighty men of valor go across first, armed. Your women, children and cattle will follow." They said, "We have listened to Moses, so take courage. Joshua will cross the Jordan with you." Joshua sent two men to secretly spy on the land.

They went to Jericho and stayed at Rahab the harlot's house. Someone told the king that there were

two spies for the Israelites in the house so the king sent for her and told her to bring the men to him. She said that two men had come but they had gone away in the evening just before the gates were closed. She did not know they had gone and they should pursue them quickly. She told the spies that the Jericho people were terrified of the Israelites for they had heard how they crossed the Red Sea on dry ground and how they had utterly destroyed two cities. Rahab said, "I know that the Lord, your God, is king of heaven and of earth and has given you the land, He is helping you also. Show me a token of kindness. When you take the city would you save my father and mother and all my family from death?" The men promised that their lives were her's, if she told no one. They said that they would deal kindly with her when the city was destroyed if she would keep all of her relatives inside her house. "If you tell any one of our business we will not keep this oath." She was to bind a scarlet linen in the window so they could recognize her house which stood on top of the town wall. She let the men down to the outside of the wall with a cord and told them to hide in the mountains for three days until their pursuers had returned to the city. When the two spies later returned to Joshua they told him all that had happened and that surely the Lord would deliver the people into their hands. All of the inhabitants were scared of the Israelites.

The officers of Israel told all the people to watch for the Ark and to follow it but to leave two thousand cubits between the Ark and them. When the priests, who bore the Ark, would touch their feet to the water of the Jordan River the waters would stop and stand in a heap on one side. Then they might all pass over the river on dry ground. When the priests carrying the Ark touched the brim of the river the waters parted. The priests stood in the middle of the Jordan, holding the Ark, while all the people hurried across into the land of Canaan. A-

bout forty thousand armed men went toward the plains of Jericho. Joshua commanded the priests to bring the Ark to the East border of Jericho. They carried twelve stones from the river bottom to Gilgal, one for each tribe. They placed the stones there for a monument of remembrance for future generations to see and to know that the Lord is mighty and had parted the Jordan. By this miracle the Israelites knew that the Lord was with Joshua and was leading him. The people honored Joshua and paid attention to whatever he said just as they obeyed Moses. When the Kings of the Amorites and the Canaanites heard that the Lord had dried up the waters of the Jordan River they became very scared and faint hearted. All of the people who had left Egypt with Moses had died in the wilderness where they had been for forty years.

The men now with Joshua, born in the wilderness, had not been circumcised. Joshua said that they must be circumcised. Their elders had disobeyed the Lord and had been told that they would not see the land promised to their fathers. They camped in Gilgal, on the Jericho plains, until the men were healed and until after the passover.

They began to eat of the corn of the land of Canaan. The manna which they had received daily in the wilderness ceased on the day they began to eat the food of Canaan. One day Joshua was near Jericho. He encountered a man with a sword drawn and Joshua said, "Are you for us or for our enemies." "No, I am the captain of the Hosts of the Lord." Joshua fell on his face and worshipped, asking what the Lord had said to his servant. The captain of the Lord's host said to Joshua, "Take off your shoes for the place whereon you stand is holy." Joshua did as he was told. The gates of Jericho were closed because of the children of Israel. No one went in or out of the city.

They were to march around the city once each day for six days. The captain said, "Seven priests shall bear before the Ark seven trumpets of rams

horns. The seventh day you shall compass the city seven times and the priests shall blow the trumpets. When the people hear the trumpets they are to shout with a loud shout and the wall of the city shall fall down flat. The people shall ascend, every man up straight before him." Joshua told the people the plan that was given to him.

The armed men passed on before the trumpets, who went before the Ark. The trumpeters blasted their horns but the people were to keep silent until the seventh day. On the seventh day they arose at dawn and compassed the city seven times. Then the priests had the trumpeters blow their horns and Joshua said, "Shout." and the wall fell down flat. The people went up into the city, every man straight before him and they took the city. They utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, ox, sheep and ass with the edge of the sword.

Joshua sent the two spies to get Rahab, her family and her household possessions and bring them to the outside of the camp of Israel. From that day on Rahab's people remained with the Israelites. The city was burned. The Lord was with Joshua and his fame was noised throughout all the country.

The children of Israel committed a trespass in the accursed thing. Achan, the son of Carmi of Judah's tribe, had committed the offense. The anger of the Lord was kindled against the children of Israel. When Joshua's men went to view Ar and to take it with three thousand men, they fled before the men of Ar and lost thirty-six men fleeing back to Shebarim.

Joshua tore his clothes and fell on his face before the Ark and layed there until evening. The elders layed there too and put dust on their heads. Joshua cried, "Oh, Lord, why have you brought us over the Jordan to be destroyed by the Amorites? Why does Israel turn their faces and run? The Ca-

naanites will all hear of it and chase us and cut off our names from the earth. What will you do to your great name?"

The Lord said, "Get up, why are you lying on your face? Israel has sinned. They have taken the accursed thing and it is among you. I will not be with you any more unless you destroy the accursed from among you. Get up, sanctify yourselves. Bring the tribes before you by families. He that is found with the accursed thing shall be burned and with all that he has, because he has brought folly in Israel. When Joshua's tribe came by, Achan's family in turn came. Joshua said to Achan, "Give glory to the Lord and confess what you have done. Hide not from me." Achan said, "Indeed I have sinned against the Lord God of Israel. When I saw a goodly babylonish garment among the spoils and a wedge of gold and of silver, I coveted them and took them. They are hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent."

Men were sent to get the hidden loot and it was laid out before the children of Israel. Then they took Achan and all his family, his animals, tent and all that he had, out to the Valley of Achor. Joshua said, "Why have you troubled us?" They stoned Achan and his family and burned them with all their possessions. Then they piled stones on top of the ashes in the Valley of Achor.

The Lord then turned from the fierceness of his anger. The Lord told Joshua not to fear but to arise and go to Ar again; for he had given him the king, the people and the cattle for themselves.

An ambush of men were to go out by night behind the city and as Joshua's army approached the city, the people of Ar would come out against Israel, who would flee before them. Those lying in ambush were to rise up and seize the city and set it on fire. Joshua and his men of war went to the north side of Ar while five thousand men went to lie in ambush

between Bethel and Ar. When Joshua went into the valley at night the king of Ar saw it and not knowing about the ambush, went out to make war on Israel. Joshua and all Israel fled toward the wilderness with the people of Ar pursuing them, leaving not a man in Ar. When Joshua stretched out his spear, the men in ambush rose, quickly entered the city and set it on fire. When those from Ar saw the smoke of their burning city, they had no where to flee. Joshua began to kill the people who were then in the midst of the Israelites. None of the people of Ar were able to escape. Twelve thousand were slain that day.

The king of Ar, who was taken alive, was hung on a tree and the carcass was later placed at the gate to the city. The cattle and spoil were taken to Israel's camp. They piled up stones there for a monument of remembrance of their victory. Then Joshua built an altar of sacrifice unto the Lord at Mount Ebal. They offered burnt offerings and peace offerings.

He left a copy of the law of Moses written on stone which he wrote in the presence of Israel. The children of Israel all came before the Levite priests who carried the Ark and were blessed. Joshua read them the laws and writings that Moses had commanded. When the kings of Lebanon, Amorite, Perizite and Jebusite heard how Jericho and Ar had been destroyed they united to fight against Joshua. The inhabitants of Gideon cunningly planned to trick Joshua. They did not want to war against Israel, for they knew they would be defeated.

A messenger wearing very old clothing and carrying old dry bread was sent pretending he had come from a far country to make a league with Israel. They said they had heard the Lord and how he had helped with Israel. Joshua made peace with them,

and the princes swore to them to make a league or an agreement.

After three days, the Israelites learned that they had been fooled by these men and that they were their neighbors. When Israel advanced toward Gideon they did not harm them because the princes of Israel had sworn by the Lord God and could not touch them. They said to let them live but they should be servants, hewers of wood and drawers of water for the Israelites. Joshua asked them why they had lied to him. He told them they were now cursed to be bondmen. They had been so afraid because it was said that the Lord had given Israel all the Land. They were made servants from then on.

When Adonizedec, King of Jerusalem, heard about Ar and that the big city of Gideon had made peace with Israel, he feared greatly because the Gideonite people were strong. The king of Jerusalem sent to his neighboring kings of Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, and Eglon to join with him to smite Gideon which had made peace with Joshua and Israel. Therefore, these kings joined together and made war with Gideon.

Gideon called for Joshua, "Fear them not, there shall not a man of them stand before you." There was a great slaughter at Gideon. As these armies fled from Israel the Lord cast down great stones from heaven upon them. Joshua spoke to the Lord and said, "Sun, stand still upon Gidoen. As the moon, in the Valley of Ajalon." And the sun stood still and the moon stayed until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. The sun stood still for an entire day. Joshua and Israel returend to Gilgal, their camp.

The five kings hid in a cave at Makedah. When

Joshua heard this, he had men roll great stones before the cave while their armies were pursued. There was a great slaughter and many fled to their fenced cities.

Later, the five kings were brought out of the cave. Joshua had them lie down and had the men of Israel put their feet on the kings necks telling the Israelites not to fear, to be courageous, for they would defeat their enemies. They slew the kings and hung them on five trees until evening when they buried them in a cave and placed a large stone in mo mouth of the cave.

Next the city of Makkedah was overtaken along with its king. Then Libnah was destroyed as the Lord God commanded. After smiting all the country from Goshen to Gibeon, Joshua and all Israel returned to Gilga.

When the kings of Hazar, Madon, Shimron and Chapli from the north heard about this, they got together and waged war against Joshua. The Lord told Joshua, "Be not afraid, for tomorrow at this time I will deliver them up before Israel. You shall take their horses and burn their chariots."

The Israelites smote all the souls with the edge of the sword. There were not any laft alive. He destroyed all the cities as Moses commanded. They burned all the cities except Hazor. They took the cattle and the spoil of the cities for themselves. Joshua took all the land, hills, the valley, the plain, and the mountains. He slew all the kings. None made peace with Joshua except the inhabitants of Gideon.

Joshua divided the land of Canaan among the twelve tribes, named the borders and said that they were to go into their lands and capture any of the people that were left. They would serve the Lord God, and not bow down to heathen gods.

The Lord said that Judah was to go up against the Canaanites to fight them. So he asked Simeon his brother to go with him. They defeated ten thousand Canaanites and Perizzites. They captured Jerusalem and set it on fire. The other cities they invaded were Hebron, Sheshai, Ahiman, Talmai and Debir.

Then Caleb said, "Whoever captures Debir, I will give him my daughter, Achsah, for his wife." Othniel captured Debir so Achsah was given to him. When she came to him she persuaded him to go and ask her father for land and water. It was given to them. Judah and his brother took possession of the hill country but they could not drive out the people of the valley because they had iron chariots. When Israel became strong they put the Canaanites into force labor camps but did not drive them out of the valley completely.

The people served the Lord all the days of Joshua and all the days of the elders who had seen all the great works of the Lord. There then arose another great generation, they didn't know the Lord. They forsóok the Lord and served Baal and the Astartes. The anger of the Lord burned against Israel. They could not stand before their enemies, because the Lord had sent them into their hands.

The Lord said, "Because of their sins, I will not drive out before you any of the nations which Joshua left when he died." The Lord left nations to test Israel to find out if they would obey his commandments. The sons of Israel took the other nations women for their wives, which was evil against the Lord. The Lord then sold them into the hand of Chushan-rishathaim, King of Mesopotamia and they served him for eight years.

Then the sons of Israel cried out to the Lord and the spirit of the Lord came over Othniel and he prevailed over Chushan-rishthaim. The lands rested for forty years. The sons of Israel did evil to the Lord again and he placed them into the service of Eglon, King of Moab, for eighteen years. When they cried out to the Lord again he sent them a deliverer, named Ehud, who went to the king of Moab and killed him.

Ehud then went to his people and they killed ten thousand Moabites. The land was undisturbed for eight years. After Ehud died they did evil against the Lord again. He sold them into the hands of Jabin, King of Canaan, for twenty years. The king oppressed them. Deborah, a prophet, told Barak to march to Mount Tabor. He was to take ten thousand men to the river.

At the river, Jabin's army fell and not one was left. The hand of Israel pressed heavy upon Jabin until they had destroyed it. Again the sons of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and the Lord gave them into the hands of Midian for seven years.

The sons of Israel were brought very low and again they cried to the Lord: The Lord sent a prophet to the sons of Israel and he said to them, "The Lord brought you up from Egypt out of the house of slavery. He is your God and you shall obey him." Gideon, the son of Josah, was sitting under a tree beating wheat when the angel of the Lord came to him and said, "The Lord is with you." Then Gideon said, "If he is with me, then where are the miracles which our father told us about?" The Lord then told him to go and deliver the Israelites from Midian, "for I am with you". Gideon then gave an offering of a kid and unleavened bread. When he pre-

sented it fire sprang up from a rock and consumed it. Then the angel of the Lord vanished from his sight.

He then built an altar there and named it, "The Lord is Peace". That night he took his father's bull and a second bull seven years old and pulled them down to the altar which belonged to his father and cut down the grove beside it. Then he built an altar to the Lord on the top of the stronghold and gave a burnt offering of a bull with the wood of the grove.

In the morning, the men of the city found what he had done. They wanted to kill him. But Josah, his father, said, "Let Baal contend with him for it was his altar which was torn down." Gideon and all the people were going to concur Midian but the Lord said there were too many of them. He then put them to a test. They were to drink from the river and whoever lapped the water with his tongue would go fight with Gideon. There were three hundred men who lapped the water and they went with him and captured the army of Midian. Gideon conquered many more cities after that.

The land was undisturbed for forty years. Gideon died at a ripe old age and was buried in the tomb of his father. When he died the sons of Israel forgot about God again.

Hemdech, the son of Gideon, went to Shechem and asked his relatives which was better, that seventy men—all the sons of Jerubaal—rule over you or that one man rule over you. They were inclined to follow him. They killed all seventy men except Jotham, the youngest, because he hid. When Jotham heard that Ahimelech was made king, he told them they would turn against each other.

After Ahimelech had served as king for three years it happened as Jotham had said. Gaal the son

of Ebed came with his relatives and the men of Shechem trusted him. Gaal asked who Abimelech was that they should serve him. He told the people to increase their army and come out.

When Zebuh, the ruler of the city, heard this he sent messengers to tell Abimelech. Abimelech conquered them and many of their cities. When he came to the Thedez, in the center of town, two women dropped a millstone upon his head. He quickly asked his armour bearer to kill him so it would not be said that he had been killed by two women.

After Abimelech died, Tola, the son of Puah, arose to save Israel. He lived in Shamir the hill country. He judged Israel twenty-three years and after him four men arose and judged them twenty-two years. After he died the sons of Israel did evil against the Lord again.

The Lord then sold them into the hands of the Philistines and the sons of Ammon. For eighteen years they afflicted the sons of Israel. Again they cried out to the Lord and again he helped them. Jephthah, the son of Gilead, fled and lived in the land of Tob.

After some time, the sons of Ammon fought against Israel again. When this happened the elders of Gilead went to Tob to get Jephthah to help them fight against the sons of Ammon. Hed said to them, "Did you not hate me and drive me out from my father's house?" The elders of Gilead said for this reason they had now turned to him to help them and to become head over all the inhabitants of Gilead. Jephthah said that he would go back with them.

They won the battle and possessed all the territory of the Amorites from the Arnon as far as the Jabbok and from the wilderness to the Jordan. They possessed whatever the Lord drove out before them. The people of Jephthah then defeated the men of Ephraim and the Gileadites captured the land of

Jordan opposite Ephraim. Juphtal judged Israel for six years, then he died. Ibzan judged Israel and he died after judging them for seven years.

The sons of Israel did evil again and the Lord gave them into the hands of the Philistines for forty years. There was a man named Manoh which had a son named Samson. He loved a woman named Delilah and the lords of the Philistines came to her and asked her to find out where his great strength lies and how they could overpower him. She found out what it was. She told them if they cut off his hair, he would have no more power. She then cut off his hair and the Philistines gouged out his eyes and put him into prison. He died taking with him over 3,000 men and women. In those days every did what he thought was right.

RUTH

There was a famine in the land and Elimelech of Bethlehem with his wife, Naomi, and their two sons, Mahlon and Chilion, journeyed to the country of Moab to find food.

Naomi's husband died shortly after arriving and she was left alone with her two sons. Soon her sons married. Their wives were Moabites named Orpah and Ruth. After ten years, Naomi's two sons also died, leaving her and her two daughters-in-law. So she decided to return to her homeland. She was growing old. Orpah and Ruth wanted to

return to their father's house. Orpha reluctantly returned to her father, after kissing Naomi good-bye, but Ruth would not leave Naomi. She told Naomi that wherever she went, she would go also. Naomi's people would be her people, and Naomi's God would be her God. Death would be the only thing that could separate them.

When Naomi saw that Ruth was determined to go with her, she gave in. When they came to Bethlehem, the whole city came out to greet them. Naomi was repentive somewhat, in that she went away with a family and returned without one. She thought God had afflicted her.

Naomi's relative of her late husband, named Boaz, was a wealthy man. He was engaged in the corn harvest at the time. Naomi told Ruth to go into his fields and glean corn and perhaps she would find favor in his sight. Boaz on seeing her in the field, asked whose damsel Ruth was. The servant told him that she was the Moabite that came with Naomi out of the country of Moab. He told her that he had knowledge of all that she had done to help Naomi since the death of her husband. He commanded her to stay and clean all his fields and commanded none of the young men to go near her. He invited her to eat with him and asked that God reward her work. Naomi was very happy that Ruth had found favor with Boaz, so she gave Ruth other instructions, concerning her new found relationship. She told Ruth to go to the threshing floor that night, and wait until Boaz had eaten and gone to sleep. She was then to lie down at his feet and uncover them. Not letting him know she was there.

Ruth obeyed her mother-in-law. Boaz awoke fearful during the night and discovered a woman lying at his feet. Upon discovering that it was Ruth, he thanked her for showing more kindness to him

than to younger men. She spent the night with Boaz and while it was yet dark, he sent her on her way, after he had promised to take her as his wife if another, more closely related than he, would not redeem the land left Naomi's family and heirs.

No other relative, however, wanted to redeem the parcel of land left Naomi by her late husband, so Boaz purchased the parcel of land and took Ruth as his wife. She conceived him a son and they named him Obed, which became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

FIRST SAMUEL

There was a man named Elkanah, the son of Jeroham. He had two wives, Hannah and Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had one. Elkanah would go up from the city yearly to make sacrifices to the Lord in Sheloh where the sons of Eli, Hophni, and Phineha were priests. He gave portions to Peninnah and her sons and daughters but to Hannah he gave double portions because she was barren. Her rival provoked her because her womb was closed. Hannah would weep bitterly. She prayed to the Lord and told him that if he would give her a son, she would give him to the Lord. Eli thought her to be drunk but, she convinced him that she was praying. Eli told her to go in peace and beseeched the Lord to grant her petition. Shortly after, Hannah conceived, and bore a son. She named him Samuel. When Elkanah went to make his yearly sacrifice Hannah stayed behind as she wished to wait until Samuel was weaned before she presented him to the Lord.

When Samuel was weaned his mother took him to Eli to serve in the Lord's work. The sons of Eli

sinned against the Lord by taking meat from the Israelites before it had been burned. The men despised the offering of the Lord. Samuel continued the offering and to minister to the Lord and his mother would see him yearly. Hannah conceived and gave birth to three sons and two daughters. The Lord appeared to Eli and told him that though he had revealed himself to his fathers house and chosen them, he would not tolerate dishonor and would chose a priest who was faithful. Everyone shall bow down to him. The Lord spoke to Samuel telling him that the house of Eli would be destroyed and Samuel would be priest to the Lord.

The Philistines decided to battle Israel and Israel was defeated. They decided to go to Shiloh and bring the Ark into the city. When the Ark arrived in camp a greag cry went up and the Philistines were afraid. They fought again, defeating the Israelites and capturing the ark. When Eli heard that Israel had been defeated and his sons were dead, he fell over and died also. He had reigned for forty years. His daughter-in-law gave brith to a son and called him Ichabod.

The Philistines took the Ark to Ashdod and set it by their god, Dagon. The next morning Dagon was found in his place again. The next morning they found him lying dead with his head and hands cut off, only his trunk remained.

The Philistines knew that the Lord was angry with them so they moved the Ark from city to city. The Lords hand was heavy and he ravaged all the cities. The lords of the Philistines gathered and decided to send the Ark back to Israel. The cries of the city rose all the way to heaven. The Ark of the Lord had been in the land of the Philistines seven months.

The Ark was taken to the house of Abinadab and his son was consecrated to keep it. Samuel spoke to the people of Israel and told them to return to the Lord. The people cast aside Baalim and Ashlaroth and served the Lord. Samuel told them to gather to Mizpeh and he would pray.

When the Philistines heard of this, they went up against the Israelites, again.

The Israelites were afraid, so Samuel made a burnt offering to the Lord and the Philistines were beaten. Samuel placed a stone between Mizpeh and Shen and named it Ebenezer saying that the Lord had helped them. The Philistines never entered within the border of Israel all the days of Samuel. He traveled a circuit judging Israel, but, he returned to Ramah because that was his house. He built an altar there.

Samuel had appointed his two sons, Joel and Abiah to be judges over Israel, but they were dishonest and the people cried out to Samuel to give them a king. Samuel spoke with the Lord and was told to heed the voice of the people.

There was a man named Saul, the son of the Kish from the house of Benjamin. When Kish's asses strayed, Saul was sent out to find them. Samuel had been told by the Lord that a man would be sent to him, who he was to anoint as prince over Israel. When Saul arrived at the land of Zuph he told his servant that there was a man of God there and he would ask him about the asses. When Samuel saw Saul he knew that this was the man that the Lord had told him about. He anointed him and made him ruler. Saul went to the house at Gibeah and to those men whose hearts were touched by what God had done with him. They departed and left with him.

Nahash, the ammonite, came and helped Jabesh-

Gilead. The men of Jabesh tried to make a covenant with Nahash. The messengers went to Saul and told him the conditions of the covenant. Saul cut an oxen into pieces and sent them throughout Israel, saying, that if the men did not come to him, he would do the same to each man's oxen. The men came, totaling 330,000. Some promised them that they would be delivered. Samuel took his people to Gilgal and made Saul king. There was much rejoicing. Saul was forty years old when began to reign. He reigned 32 years over Israel.

Saul waited the seven days, appointed by Samuel. When he saw that the men were scattering, he went ahead with the offerings, even though Samuel had not come. Just as he had finished the burnt offerings, Samuel appeared. Samuel was angry and told Saul that his kingdom would not endure and Samuel went to Gibeah. Saul counted the people who were with him. He had 600 men. The Philistines descended on Israel and neither sword nor spear was found in the hands of the people. The Philistines went out to the passage of Michmask.

Jonathan, the son of Saul, left the camp with an armor bearer, without telling his father. He was going to cross over to the Philistines. The Philistines asked Jonathan to come to them. The first slaughter that Jonathan made was 20 men and the camp trembled. When the men of Israel heard that the Philistines fled, even they pursued them. The Lord delivered Israel that day.

Saul put an oath on the men that day, telling them not to eat until evening but, Jonathan did not hear him. When they entered the forest, honey was on the ground and Jonathan dipped his sword and ate of the honey. He felt his eyes brighten. They fought the Philistines again that day and were very tired.

The people rushed upon the spoil and ate the meat and told Saul that the people were sinning, eating the meat with the blood. Saul told each of the people to bring a sheep or an ox and slaughter it, but not to eat the blood. Saul built an altar to the Lord. When Samuel told Saul to go out and strike against Aniolek and to destroy everything, he did. When Saul had killed all the people, he took some of the sheep and oxen, to offer, as offerings to the Lord.

Samuel told Saul that he had sinned against the Lord by not destroying everything. The Lord had taken the kingdom from him that day. The Lord regretted that he had made Saul king and the Lord sent Samuel to Jesse, the Bethlehemite for he had a son who had been chosen by the Lord to be king.

Samuel feared Saul, so the Lord told him to say that he had come to sacrifice the offerings to the Lord. He came to Bethlehem and consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to worship with him. Seven of Jesse's sons passed before Samuel, but the Lord told him that none of them were the chosen one. One other son, the youngest, was tending sheep. He was brought before Samuel and he was anointed King. His name was David .

The spirit of the Lord went from Saul and an evil spirit entered him. Saul called his servant and told him to send someone who could play well. He was told that there was one, the son of Jesse, David. David was brought to Saul. When the evil spirit was in Saul, David played, and the evil spirit left him.

The Philistines gathered their armies for a battle. The men of Israel were camped in the valley of Elah and the Philistines stood on the side of the mountain and Israel stood on another with the valley between them. A giant from the Philistines

appeared and challenged the Israelites to choose a man to fight them. If he was killed the Philistines would be servants to Israel. The sons of Jesse were with Saul. Jesse sent David to see about their welfare. David arrived at camp and found everyone in battle armour. The giant Goliath appeared. David was told that the man who killed him would be highly rewarded by Saul. David fought Goliath and slew him. When the Philistines saw that their champion had fallen, they fled. David took the Philistines head off and took it to Jerusalem. David went where Saul sent him and prospered but, when Saul heard the women singing songs of praise for David, he was jealous. Saul was afraid of David, for the spirit of the Lord was in him. Saul planned to have David fall at the hands of the Philistines and offered his daughter as a wife to him without dowery except the lives of 100 Philistines. David went out and killed 200 Philistines and Saul gave him Michal to be his wife. When Saul saw that Michal loved David, he was more afraid and became his enemy.

Saul told Jonathan to put David to death. But Jonathan loved David and told him of the plot. Jonathan spoke highly of David and Saul listened. There was an evil spirit in Saul and he tried to kill David. David fled and escaped to Samuel at Ramoh and told him what Saul had done. Saul sent messengers to Ramah to take David but, each time the spirit of God came over them. Saul went himself but, the spirit of God fell on him also. David fled to Jonathan asking him why Saul wanted him dead. Jonathan did not attend the meal of the new moon. He wanted to test the anger of Saul. David and Jonathan made a plan. If Saul was angry at his absence, Jonathan would signal David so he could flee. This was done.

David went to the priest, Ahimelech, in Nob. There he got bread and fled that day from Saul to Achish, king of Gath. The servants were told that this was David. David feared the king, so he faked insanity and fled again. He escaped to a cave of Adullam and his family visited him there.

Everyone who was in distress gathered and there were 400 men. David asked the king Mizpeh, of Moab, to allow his parents to stay with him until he learned God's will. David departed for the land of Judah. Saul heard of this, and he accused every one of conspiring against him and ordered the priests killed. The people refused, so David slayed 85 priests, all but one named Abiathar who joined David.

David was told that Saul had killed the priests of the Lord. Then David heard that the Philistines were fighting against Keilah. He asked the Lord what to do. The Lord told him to go to Keilah and he would give the Philistines into his hands. David delivered the people of Keilah.

When Saul heard that David was there, he was sure that he had David trapped. David asked the Lord if his men would surrender him to Saul and the Lord told him they would. David and his men fled Keilah and upon hearing this, Saul gave pursuit. David went and stayed in the stronghold of Engedi.

When Saul returned from fighting the Philistines he took 3,000 men to seek David. When he came to the sheep folds, he entered a cave where David was resting. His men told him that this was the day the Lord had foretold, the day his enemy would be delivered into his hands. David rose and secretly cut off the edge of Saul's robe. David would not harm one who was anointed by the Lord. When Saul left the cave David followed, asking why he thought

David wished him harm. "See I have a piece of your robe, but I did not harm you."

Samuel had died, and David went down to the wilderness of Paran. Saul heard that David was at Gibeah and took 3,000 men to take him. As they slept, David crept into the camp and took Saul's spear and Jug but did not harm him. David called his people and showed him the spear and jug.

Saul recognized David's voice and knew what he had done. Saul said that he had sinned and said that he would not harm David. David went on his way and Saul returned to his place. David knew that someday Saul would kill so, he took his men and household to Achish, king of Gath, where he lived with his two wives, Ahinoan and Abigail, Nabal's widow. Saul no longer hunted him.

David raided many cities and left no one alive, after Samuel's death. Saul cast out all mediums, but when the Lord would not come to Saul he ordered that a medium be found who could bring up Samuel. Samuel was angry at being brought up and told Saul that the kingdom had been torn from him and given to David.

During the battle with the Philistines, David's wives and children were taken captive and the city burned. The people were angry at David and wanted to stone him. David asked the Lord what to do and was told to pursue them. David overtook them and killed them all and rescued his wives.

The Philistines fought Israel and killed Saul's two sons and wounded Saul. Saul fell on his sword and killed himself. The men of Israel saw that Saul was dead, and they fled. The Philistines cut off Saul's head and fastened the body to the wall. The valiant men walked and looked all night and then took the body, buried it and fasted for seven days.

SECOND SAMUEL

After the death of Saul, David returned from the slaughter of the Amalikites and remained two days in Ziklag. On the third day, a man came out from the camp of Saul with his clothes torn and dust on his head. The man fell to the ground at David's feet. David said, "From where do you come?" The man said, "I have escaped from the camp of Israel." David asked him, "How did things go?" The people have fled from the battle and many of the people have fallen and are dead. Saul and Jonathan, his son, are dead also. David said, "How do you know that they are dead? I was on mount Gilboa, Saul was leaning on his spear. The chariots and the horseman pursued him. Saul looked behind him and saw me and he called to me and said "here I am. Please kill me for agony has seized me because my life still lingers in me." I stood beside him and killed him. I knew that he could not live after he had fallen. "I took the crown from his head and the bracelet from his arm and have brought them here to you my Lord."

David took hold of his clothes and tore them and also did all the men who were with him. They then mourned and wept and fasted until evening for Saul and Jonathan and for the people of the Lord and the house of Israel because they had fallen by the sword. David said to the man, "Where are you from?" I am from an Aleen, an Amalekite. David asked him why he was not afraid to kill one who was anointed by the Lord. He then told his men to kill him. They stabbed him and he died. David said, "Your blood is on your head, for your mouth has testified against you, I have killed the Lords anointed. David then chanted with his sorrow over Saul and Jonathan and he told the men to teach

the son of Judah the use of the bow.

David asked the Lord, "Shall I go up to one of the cities of Judah?" The Lord said to him, "Go up to Hebron." David went with his two wives, Abigail and Ahinoam. David brought his men who were with him, each with his household and they lived in the cities of Hebron. Then the men of Judah came and annointed David king over house of Judah. They told David it was the men of Jabesh-Gilead who buried Saul.

David sent messengers to the men of Jabesh-Gilead and told them, "May you be blessed of the Lord because you have shown this kindness to Saul and have buried him. Now may the Lord show loving kindness and truth to you. Let your hands be strong and valiant. Saul is dead; and also, the house of Judah has annointed me king over him." Abner, the son of Ner, commander of Saul's army had taken Ishbosheth, the son of Saul, and brought him over to Mahanaim . He was king over Gilead, even all of Israel.

Abner, the son of Ner, went out from Mahanaim to Gideon with his servants and the servants of David went out to meet them by the pool of Gideon. Abner said to Job, "Let the young men arise and hold a contest before us." They got them up by the count of twelve for Benjamin and twelve for David. They thrust their sword at each other until they fell together. The battle was very severe, Abner and the men of Israel were beaten before the servants of David. Asahel pursued Abner. Abner said, "Turn aside from us why should I kill you. How could I face your brother Joab?" Asahel still wouldn't turn around so Abner thrust his spear in him so that it was sticking out of his back. Ashel fell to the ground dead. Joab and Abishai pursued Abner.

At night they were on the hill of Aamah. The sons of Benjamin gathered together behind Abner. Abner called to Joab, "How long will you refrain from telling the people to turn back from following their brothers?"

Joab said, "As God lives, if you would not have spoken, surely then the people would have gone away in the morning, each following their brothers." Joab blew the trumpet, the people stopped their fighting and no longer pursued Israel. Abner and his men turned and went to Mahanaim, Joab and his men went to Hebron.

There was a war going on between the house of Saul and the house of David. David grew strong and Saul grew weaker. Abner made himself strong for the house of Saul. Abner was very angry and said, "Am I to show kindness to the house of Saul and have them delivered into the hands of David, yet, today you charge me with guilt concerning a woman." Ishbosheth was afraid to answer him.

Abner sent messengers to David saying, "Whose is this land? Make your covenant with me, and behold my hand shall be with you to bring all of Israel unto you." David said, "Good, I will make a covenant with you and you shall not see my face unless you bring Michal." David sent messengers to Ishbosheth, "Give me my wife, Michal." Ishbosheth sent for her and took her from her husband.

Her husband followed her, weeping as he went. Abner told him, "go, return." Abner said to the elders of Israel, "In times past you were seeking for David to be king over you. Now you will do it. For the Lord has spoken to David saying, "By the hand of my servant David I will save my people from the hand of the Philistines," and out of the hand of all their enemies.

Then Abner and twenty men came to David. David had a feast for them. Abner said, "let me go and gather all of Israel, for they may make a covenant with you." David let Abner leave. Joab and his many men came from a raid and brought many spoils with them. They told Joab about Abner being there and that David let him leave.

Joab then came to David and said, "what have you done? Abner came to you to find out all that you are doing." Joab then left David, and sent messengers out to find Abner. They brought him back. Joab took Abner and talked to him privately. There he stabbed him so that he would die.

David heard about this and said, "I and my kingdom are innocent before the Lord, forever, of the blood of Abner." David said to Joab, "Tear your clothes and gird on a sackcloth and lament before Abner." Thus they buried Abner in Hebron. David then chanted a prayer for Abner.

The people then followed David to eat bread. David vowed, "May god do so to me, and more also, if I taste bread or anything." All the people took note of this and it pleased them. All the people of Israel understood that it was not David's wish for Abner's death.

David said to his servants, "Do you not know that a prince and a great man has fallen this day in Israel? May the Lord repay the evildoer according to his evil." When Ishbosheth heard that Abner had died, he lost courage and all of Israel was disturbed. Rechab and Baanah, sons of Rimmon, went to the house of Ishbosheth and killed him. When they left, they cut off his head and took it to David.

They said to David, "Behold, the head of Ishbosheth, your enemy, who sought your life." David answered, "When one told me that Saul was dead, he

thought he was bringing me good news. I killed him and now I must destroy you." The people of Israel came to David and said, "Behold, we are your bone and your flesh."

David and his men went to Jerusalem against the Jebusites. David captured the stronghold of Zion, the city of David. David became great because the Lord of hosts was with him. King Hiram, of Tyre, had a house built for David.

David took more wives out of Jerusalem and eleven sons were born to him. The Philistines wanted to kill David because they didn't want him to be king over Israel. David fought the Philistines several times, defeating them always.

With about 30,000 men, David went to Judah, and brought the Ark of God to Gibeah and placed it on a cart in the house of Abinadaab. They rejoiced playing many different musical instruments.

David then took the ark to the house of Abinadab where it stayed for three months. David then took the ark to the city of David in Zion, the people there rejoiced at his return.

Michal mocked David for acting like a child so David put a curse on her and she remained childless the rest of her life.

The Lord spoke to Nathan and told him to tell David to build a temple out of cedar for the Lord. He wanted to reaffirm his covenant with Israel, reminding them of God's law.

After this came to pass, David defeated the Philistines and took Methegammah out of their hands. The Moabites became David's servants. David took a thousand chariots, seven hundred horsemen, and twenty thousand footmen and went into the land of Syria and killed twenty two thousand Syrians. David now had control over Damascus. David took many vessels:

of gold and brass and added them to his treasures.

A year later, at a time for kings to go forth to battle, David sent his troops ahead. He stayed behind in Jerusalem. David went for a walk on his roof one night and saw a beautiful girl taking a bath. David sent a messenger to get Bathsheba and bring her to him. He then went to bed with her. The next day, David sent for her husband and upon his return he asked him about the war. He then told him to go home, but he wouldn't go. When David asked him why he would not go, he said that he wouldn't go as long as his men were still at battle. David told him to stay in Jerusalem for a couple of days. He did as he was told.

David then sent him back to battle and told his men to see to it that he was killed in battle. A few days later word came back to king David that he had been killed. Bathsheba mourned for her husband. David sent for her and she became his wife and bore him a son but, the Lord was angry with David for what he had done.

Nathan went to David and told him a story about a man who took advantage of a poor man and this made David mad. He said, "Whoever did this will surely die. He shall be made to repay the man four times what he took" Nathan told David that he was that man. You have despised the commandment of the Lord to do evil in his sight. Thus saith the Lord, "Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house and I will take them unto thy neighbor. You did this secretly, but I will do it before all of Israel."

David became sorry for what he had done. The Lord caused his son to die and showed no mercy upon David. David went to his wife, Bathsheba, and they had another son, he was named Solomon.

Joab fought against Rabbah and took the royal

city. He sent messengers to tell David. They took the king's crown, of that city, and placed it on David's head. David and all the people of Israel returned to Jerusalem.

It came to pass that David had two more sons and a daughter. One of the sons fell in love with his sister and wanted her. He pretended to be sick and told David that he wanted his sister to come and fix some food for him. When she came to him, he tried to get her to go to bed with him but, she kept trying to refuse him saying it was against the laws of Israel. He forced himself on her and raped her. Then he told her to get out when he was done. He had one of his servants throw her out of the house.

David found out about this and was very angry. He sent his two sons out on a journey and his one son who had committed the sin was killed. The other son fled to Talmai and remained there for three years.

His son finally returned and became rebellious toward David. A messenger came and told David that the people of Israel were starting to favor his son over him. David ordered that all his servants should flee so they would not be killed. The Ark of God was taken to Jerusalem and they rested there. David and his men covered their heads. They went up on the Mount of Olivet and wept.

In a little while Ziba, the servant, came up the hill with some food for them. David said, "Where is my son?" Ziba told him that he was already in Jerusalem.

David went to Bahurim and a man came out cursing at him. He told David that his son would not reign for him, because he had caused blood in the house of Saul. "Behold thou art taken by your deeds because you are a bloody man."

David said, "Behold, my son seeks my life, how much more can this Benjamite do? Leave him alone and let him curse, for the Lord had bidden him."

David's son entered Jerusalem and took over his father's house and his women. He did this for all of Israel to see.

A man came to David's son with a plan to kill King David. This pleased him very much. They set out to kill David. One of the men involved in the plan, sent word to David of the plan and told him not to camp that night, or he would be killed. They crossed over the river Jordan that night. The people there, brought them some food and drink, and let them rest in the wilderness that night.

David organized his troops and set captains over them. He divided his army into four parts. The people did not want David to go into battle, for fear that he might be killed. The army marched out and fought Israel in Ephraim. David's servants killed 20,000 Israelites that day. David's son was killed by Joab in the woods. Joab blew the horn and the fighting stopped.

David's son was buried there in the woods. A messenger ran to David's camp with news about the battle. David asked about his son but, the messenger would not tell him. Another messenger came up to David and told him that his son had been killed. David was very hurt and wept openly.

David continued to weep over the loss of his son but, was bringing dishonor and shame to his servants. Joab went to him and asked him if he would have been happier if they were killed instead of him. You should speak comfort to your people so they won't feel ashamed. King David went and sat at his gate and talked to his people. After that, David and his servants crossed the Jordan river and went back

into Jerusalem.

There was a man there called Sheba. He blew a horn and said, "We have no part in David, every man to his tents, O Israel." The men of Israel got up and left except for the men of Judah. When David got to his house he took in ten women for his home. They were the same ones that served his son after he had left the first time. He put them in isolation and they stayed there the rest of their days.

David ordered his men to go and capture Sheba and his men. One of his officers, by the name of Amasa, was taking his time and was delayed in leaving. Joab went up to him like he was going to give him a kiss, took his sword, and tore his belly open until his bowels fell to the ground, (he died). Then Joab and his brother pursued Sheba.

Sheba and his men had taken refuge in a city. A woman came out and asked Joab why he wanted to destroy the Lord's city. Joab told her that if she would send out Sheba he would spare the city. The woman went back and told the men what Joab had told her. They cut off Sheba's head and tossed it out to Joab. Joab took the head to David and spared the city.

A great famine hit the land of David that lasted for three years. David asked the Lord why. The Lord said, "It is for Saul, and for his bloody house because he slew the Gibeonites."

David asked the Gibeonites what he could do for them. They told him that they didn't want anything from him. They said, "Let seven sons of Saul be delivered to us, and we will hang them up to the Lord. King David delivered seven sons of Saul to them and they hanged them on the hill before the Lord. They were put to death during the time of the harvest. King David then gathered up the bones of Saul and Jonathan his son, and the seven men who

had been hanged, and buried them in the country of Benjamin. God then, heard their prayers for the land.

David was in battle with the Philistines again and a giant appeared and David fainted. His men had to rescue him and told him not to go into battle anymore. They had another battle in Gob with the Philistines and a son of the giant with six toes and six fingers appeared. Shimea, the brother of David, slew him. All the giants of the Philistines fell by the hand of David or by his servants.

David spoke to the Lord with songs of praise. The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; for the Lord had delivered him out of the hands of his enemies and out of the hand of Saul.

FIRST KINGS

Adonijah, the son of Haggith, exalted himself and made himself king. He gathered about 50 men and chariots and paraded around, but Nathan the prophet, his brother Solomon, and the other mighty men, did not follow him. Nathan told Bathsheba that Adonijah had made himself king and David did not know it.

"Come with me to save your life," he told her.

Bathsheba told King David that Solomon should reign instead of Adonijah. She told the king to declare Solomon king before he died lest after his death, they would be called criminals and killed. "Assuredly, Solomon thy son, shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne." Bathsheba, with her face to the ground, said, "Let my Lord King David live forever."

Solomon was taken to Gibon where he was anointed. There was much rejoicing.

King David said, "Blessed be the name of the Lord God of Israel which gave me someone to sit upon my throne and I gave witness to it."

Adonijah's friends became afraid and left him. Adonijah took refuge at the altar. Solomon heard of this and promised not to harm him. Shortly thereafter David died and was buried in the City of David. He had ruled forty years.

Adonijah still thought that he should be king over Solomon. He asked Bathsheba to ask Solomon to give him Abishag for a wife. When Bathsheba asked Solomon, he commanded that Adonijah be put to death.

Upon hearing this, Joab feared his life, too, and fled to the altar of the Lord. Solomon heard about this and sent a messenger to talk to Joab about it. Joab said that he would rather die at the altar than go to Solomon. Solomon ordered his death. They took him away from the tabernacle and buried him.

Solomon took the daughter of Pharaoh for his wife. Then he prayed to the Lord for wisdom. His wisdom was tested when two women came before him, each claiming to be the mother of the same child. Solomon ordered that the child be cut in half and a piece given to each woman. The true mother begged the king not to kill the child. Then the king gave the child to the real mother.

Solomon had twelve officers over Israel and each man had to provide for his own house. Solomon's provisions were large.

God gave Solomon great wisdom and a kind heart. He was wiser than all the men. He spoke 3,000 proverbs and wrote 1,000 songs.

King Hiram, of Tyre, sent his servants to Solomon because of the great love for Solomon's father, David. Solomon told king Hiram that he was going to build a temple to the Lord. His land was at total peace, and no wars were being waged.

King Solomon decided to build a temple to the Lord and ordered materials with which to build it. He built an oracle and overlaid it with gold. He

then built a house for himself. He had many beautiful things made for the temple.

King Solomon ordered the priests to bring the Ark into the temple. King Solomon and the congregation of Israel assembled and made sacrifices to the glory of the Lord. Later the Lord appeared to Solomon and promised that if he would obey all laws, he would never leave his people. "But if you turn away, I will cut Israel off from you."

After twenty years had passed, Solomon gave King Hiram, of Tyre, twenty cities in the land of Galilee. However, Hiram was not pleased, He called them the land of Cabul, displeasingly dirty, unto this day.

The queen of Sheba heard of Solomon's wisdom and paid him a visit. She was very impressed with him. She told him that his wisdom and wealth was far more than she had imagined. Solomon gave to her everything she wanted

King Solomon had many wives, but when he became old they turned from him to their gods. He turned to these gods too in order to find favor with his wives.

The Lord became angry with Solomon and divided his kingdom. King Solomon died after being king for forty years.

Solomon's son, Rehoboam reigned as king, however he spoke harshly to the people and they rebelled against him. They made Jeroboam of Judah their king. Jeroboam brought calves of gold for his people to worship. The Lord sent a man of God to burn some incense. He prophesied that a child would be born, his name would be Josiah, and by his name men would be put to death.

When the king heard this, he tried to stop the man but was unable to do so. When he touched the man his hand dried up. He asked the man to intercede for him and heal the hand. The hand was restored. Soon afterward, Jeroboam died and Rehobam

became king. He ruled only a short time, and his son, Abijam ruled. He sinned against God and died soon afterward. Asa became king and followed in the will of the Lord. But he was old and diseased and died, and Nadab became king.

The word of the Lord came to Jehu, that Baasha should be removed from office because his sins were great. The Lord said, him that dieth of Baasha in the city shall the dogs eat, and he that dieth in the field the birds shall eat.

Jehu ruled over Israel for two years and was killed by one of his captains. Zimri, the captain, then took control of the country and ordered all the house of Baasha killed. Zimri ruled for seventy-seven days, when the Israelites voted to have Omri rule over them. Zimri committed suicide.

The people of Israel divided, half followed Omri and the others followed Tibni. Tibni died shortly thereafter and the people followed Omri. After Omri died, Ahab became king. He was a sinful man and took Jezebel for a wife.

Elijah told Ahab, because of your sin, the land would have no rain or dew for several years. Elijah was told to go to the brook Cherith and he would be fed by the ravens was as he was told and everyday the ravens brought him bread and meat.

Soon the brook dried up because it had not rained in the land. He was told to go to Zarephath and a woman there would sustain him. When he got to her house he asked for some water and food. The woman told him that she was out of food except for a small portion of flower and oil. Elijah told her to be of faith and get him the food and water and that the Lord would see to it that she never run out of flower or oil until it rained in the land again. She did as she was told to do and they ate abundantly.

After these things came to pass, the son of the woman fell sick and died. The woman asked him if he were sent to slay her son. He told the woman to give him the boy. He was laid on his bed. The Elijah prayed to the Lord to let the boy live again and the boy's life was restored. The woman said, "you are truly the man of God."

In the third year of the drought Elijah was told by the Lord to go to Ahab and he would let it rain on the land. Ahab called for Obediah to take the mules and horses and find some water so that they would not die. On his way, he met Elijah, and fell on his face before him. Elijah told him to go and tell that he was coming. Obediah was afraid to go back to Ahab for he was afraid Ahab would kill him. Obediah went though and told Ahab. Ahab went to meet Elijah.

Elijah told Ahab to gather all of his prophets together and to meet him on Mount Carmel. Elijah met the people and told them to make two stacks of wood with an offering on the top. He wanted them to call on their gods and he would call on the Lord. The stack that was set on fire would represent the one true God. The people agreed to this. The Lord set Elijah's sacrifice on fire and consumed it. All the water that was in a trench around it disappeared. The people said he was the one true God.

Elijah then ordered all of the false prophets of Baal to be killed, and it was done. Elijah then fell on his knees on the top of Mount Carmel and prayed for rain. There was a great rain across the land. The hand of the Lord was surely upon Elijah. Ahab told Jezebel about all that Elijah had done, so Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah telling him to let the Gods do more to her

to let her be like a god. When Ahab heard about this he got up and fled into the Wilderness.

Elijah had also fled into the wilderness and an angel came to him and told him to get up and eat for the journey will be long. Elijah went to Horeb, the Mount of God. He went into a cave and the word of God came to him. Elijah told him that the children of Israel had broken the covenant and thrown down the altars. The Lord passed like a swish of wind. An earthquake followed, then a fire took place. The Lord then told him to go to Damascus and anoint Hazael to be king over Syria, and Jehu shall be anointed king over Israel. If anyone escapes Jehu's sword, then you are to kill them yourself.

When he left, he found Elisha, the son of Shaphat. Elijah waved to him and he came to him.

Benhadad, the king of Syria, gathered all his people together and made war against Israel. He sent word to Ahab to surrender all his possessions, including his wives, to him. Ahab did not want to give in. He rallied his men in an attack and defeated the Samaritans, slaughtering many. Benhadad escaped on horseback. He gathered new troops in Aphek to fight against Israel. They fought again and the children of Israel killed over 100,000 footmen of the Syrians that day, again Benhadad fled.

The word of the Lord came to Elijah again, telling him to go down and meet Ahab in Samaria. "Ask him why he had killed so many. Behold, I will bring evil upon thee and will take away thy property and will cast off, from Ahab, him that is shut up and left in Israel." Ahab had done wrong according to the things that the Amorites' have done and the Lord cast them out before the children of Israel.

Ahab heard about this and became very repentive. So, the Lord said he would not bring evil against him in his days but, in his son's days.

In the third year Jehoshaphat came down to the king of Israel. He wanted Ahab to join him in making war against Ramothgilead. Ahab consulted his prophets and they all told him to go, and he would prosper. Miciah told him that his people would be scattered. The king of Israel disguised himself and went into battle. Jehoshaphat, was mistaken for the king, and they pursued him. About then, a man shot the king in the back with an arrow. He was taken away and died that evening. Then Lahaziah, his son, reigned over Israel. Jehoshaphat ruled over Judah at the age of 35 and he reigned for 25 years in Jerusalem. He walked in all the ways of Asa his father.

Jehoshaphat made peace with the King of Israel. There was no king in Edom, only a deputy. Soon Jehoshaphat died and his son, Jehoran, took over Judah. Ahaziah, the son of Ahab, began to rule Israel in Samaria and he did evil in the sight of the Lord.

SECOND KINGS

After the death of Ahab, Moab rebelled against Israel and Ahaziah became ill. He had sinned against the Lord so, he sent messengers to inquire of Baal-Zebub, whether or not he would recover. The Lord told Elijah to meet the messengers and tell them that Ahaziah would not recover. When Ahaziah heard that Elijah was on the mountain, he sent 50 men with a captain to ask him to come down, but fire came from the heavens and destroyed them. Again 50 men were sent and destroyed.

When the third captain came to Elijah he begged him not to destroy them, and the angel of the Lord told Elijah to go down the mountain. Elijah told Ahaziah, that because he had sent messengers to Baal, he would not recover. So, Ahaziah died and Jeraram became King. It was then that the Lord was going to take Elijah and Elijah went with Elisha. Elijah wanted Elisha to stay behind but, he refused. They went to the Jordan and he struck the waters and they parted.

As they walked, a chariot of fire came down, and Elijah was carried to heaven. Elisha took Elijah's mantle and struck the water. When it parted, the sons of the prophets of Jericho saw it, and knew that the spirit of Elijah was in him and they bowed down.

Jehoram, the son of Ahab, became the king over Israel in the 18th year of Jehoshaphat, King of Judah. He reigned for twelve years, and sinned in the eyes of the Lord. He put away Baal but, he clung to the sins of Jeroboam.

Mesa, the Moab, was a breeder of sheep. When Ahab died, he rebelled against the king of Israel. King Jehoram mustered all of Israel. The Israelite travelled for seven days and found no water. They called for a prophet to tell them the Lord's plans. The prophet said, "Make this valley full of trenches, but you will not see wind or rain, but the valley will be full of water." The Lord will also give Moab into your hands. The Israelites fought Moab but they could not break through.

One day Elisha passed to Shunem and there a woman offered him food. He ate there often and a small room was made ready for him. Elisha asked the woman what he could do for her. She

wished a son, but her husband was old. Within one year she had a son. When her son was grown, he became ill and died, and the woman went to the man of God for help. He returned with her and brought the boy back to life. When Elisha returned to Gilgal, there was famine. Alman of Baal, Skalishad, brought the man of God bread of the fruit. Twenty loaves of bailey and fresh ears of grain. One hundred man were fed.

Naaman, captain of the army of the king of Syria, was a great warrior. But, he was a leper. There was a captive girl of Israel who told Naaman's wife that if he would go to the prophet in Samaria he would be cured. Naaman told his master. He was sent to the prophet with a letter from the king. The prophet turned him away. Elisha heard of this and sent for Naaman telling him to wash in the water of the Jordan and he would be healed. Naaman said, "Behold, I know there is a God."

The King of Syria was enraged and sent an army to Dothan to take Elisha and surround the city. Elisha prayed to God and the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire. Elisha, the prophet, followed him. He would take them to the man they sought.

Elisha took them to Samaria. When they were in Samaria he set food before his enemies and sent them to their masters. The armies of Syria came to Israel no more.

Elisha spoke to the woman whose son he had saved and told her to travel because there would be a famine. She took her family to the land of the Philistines. After seven years, she returned and asked the king for her house and fields. When the king learned that she was the mother whose son had been brought to life by Elisha, he

ordered the fields restored. The king of Syria was ill and sent Hazael to Elisha to see if he would recover. Elisha told Hazael that he would be king.

He returned to his masters and told him that he would recover, though Elisha had known that he would not. He died and Hazael became king in his place. He walked in the way of the Lord and of the king of Israel. The daughter of Ahab became his wife and he sinned in the sight of the Lord.

The Lord was not willing to destroy Judah. Edom revolted from under Judah and was made a king over them. Joram struck by night and the Edomites fled, Edom revolted against Judah. Joram was buried with his father in the city of David.

Ahaziah, his son, became king. He went with Joram to war against Hazael. The Syrians wounded Joram. Elisha sold one of the sons of the prophet to Romatt-gilead. He searched out Jehu, the son of Jehoshaphat, and anointed him king of Israel and then fled. When the others asked Jehu why the man had come he told them that he had been made king of Israel. And Joram, King of Israel, and Ahaziah, King of Judah, went out against Jehu. Jehu slew Joram with an arrow.

When Ahazia, King of Judah, saw this he fled but Jehu shot him also. He carried them to Jerusalem and buried them there.

When Jehu came to Jezreel, Jezebel painted herself and looked out the window. When Jehu saw her, he ordered her thrown from the window (she died). Jehu ordered her buried because she was the daughter of a king. Jehu killed all the people of Ahab and departed to Samaria.

In Samaria, Jehu gathered the worshippers of Baal, and ordered his men to kill everyone there.

Then they destroyed all of Baal. Baal was completely removed from Israel.

The Lord told Jehu, that because of what he had done, the sons of his fourth generation would sit on the throne of Israel. Jehu reigned 28 years. When Athaliah heard that, Ahaziah, her son, was dead. She killed all the royal offspring except Joash, the son of Ahazia, who was hidden.

Seven years later, he was brought out under heavy guard and crowned king. Athaliah was executed. He was seven years old when he became king. His mother's name was Zebeah of Beersheba. He reigned 40 years. He did right in the sight of God.

Jehoash told the priests to take all the offerings that had been brought into the house of the Lord and repair it. They did not do it. Therefore, the priests were ordered to take no more offerings.

Hazael, King of Syria, went up and fought Gath, Hazael went to Jerusalem. Jehoash, King of Judah, took all sacred things and sent them to Hazael. All the acts of Joash were written down. His servants arose and struck him down. Ahaziah became king.

In the 23rd year of Joash, Jehoahaz became king of Israel and reigned 17 years. He followed the sins of Jeroboam and the anger of the Lord was kindled. The Lord gave them into the hand of Hazael and Ben-ladad. Jehoahaz beseeched the Lord and the Lord listened, and delivered the Israelites from the hands of the Syrians. However, he continued to sin and he died. All the kings that followed Jehoahaz, Joash and Elisha sinned and died.

When Hazael died, Ben-ladad became king in the land of Israel. Jehoash took the lands and recovered the cities of Israel.

At the age of 25, Amaziah became king. He did right in the sight of God. The high places were not taken away and the people made their offerings. When he had the kingdom in hand, he killed all his servants who had killed his father, but he let their sons live. He sent messengers to Jehoash to meet face to face. They met and Israel defeated Judah.

Jehoash died and Jeroboam became king and he was conspired against. He fled to Lachesh but was pursued and killed. Azeriah who was sixteen years old became king. He restored the border of Israel. It was told how he had fought and recovered for Israel, Damascus and Hamath. He soon died.

Zechariah became king and the Lord struck the king. He was a leper for the rest of his life. He reigned for 25 years then Jotham, his son, became king. Zechariah had been king over Israel in Samaria for 6 months when Shallun killed him and became king in his place. He reigned one month and was followed by Menoahn who had killed him.

Many kings reigned during this time for short periods of time. When Jotham died, Ahaz became king. He was twenty years old and he did not do right and he took the treasures from the house of the Lord. When he came to Damascus, he saw the altar, and commanded the priest to give offerings. The priest obeyed. He removed the riches from the house of the Lord. He died and Hezebiah reigned. He reigned for nine years and sinned against the Lord.

In the ninth year, the king of Assyria, captured Samaria and carried Israel away to exile. This came to pass because they did things secretly and worshipped idols. The Lord kept warn-

ing Israel to stop this sinful way, but they did not listen and they forsook all the commandments. The Lord removed all Israel from his sight except the tribe of Judah.

The king of Assyria brought men and settled them in the cities of Samaria. They did not fear the Lord. The still did not listen. Even though they feared the Lord, they still served their idols.

In the third year of Hoshea, Hezekiah became king and reigned for 29 years. He did right in the sight of the Lord. He trusted the Lord and there was none like him among all the kings of Judah. He defeated the Philistines. In the sixth year of Hezekahhen, he attacked Samaria and took the land and Israel was in exile. In the fourteenth year of Hezekiah Sennachrib came up against Judah and took them.

King Hezekiah sent Eliakin to seek out Israel, to learn what the Lord intended to do and Israel told him not to be afraid of the words he had heard from Rabahaken. The king would return to his own land and die. Rabahaken returned and found the king of Assyria fighting against Lebanon. He sent a messenger to Hezekiah telling him not to believe the Lord. He said that Jerusalem would not give in the hand of the king of Assyria. Hezekiah took the letter and laid it before the Lord and the Lord told him that the king of Assyria would not take Jerusalem and that night the angel of the Lord struck the camp of Assyria killing thousands of men. Several other kings ruled for a short period of time but they were all killed by the Lord for their sins.

When Manasseh was twelve years old, he became king. He rebuilt the high places that his father had torn down and reconstructed an altar to Baal.

He practiced witchcraft and used magicians. He placed the carved image of Ashera in the house of the Lord. The Lord told them that if they would wonder no more, if they would observe the word of God they would be saved but, they would not listen, and committed sins far worse than the people before them.

The Lord said that he would destroy Jerusalem and Judah. Manasseh died and Amon at age twenty two reigned. The people of the land killed all those who had conspired against Ammon and made Josiah, his son, king. He was eight years old and reigned for 31 years. He did right in the sight of the Lord and walked in the way of David. The king sent Shaphen up to the high priest to count the money that was in the house.

Hilkiah found the book of law and gave it to Shaphan to read. King Josiah heard the book read. The king sent Hilkiah to ask the Lord about the book because his father had sinned against the Lord. The Lord said that he would bring evil on the land but, because the king's heart was tender they would die before they saw all the evil in the place.

The king sent for all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. They with all the people went to the house of the Lord to keep his commandments. He ordered all the idols of Baal to be taken out of the house. He brought all the priests from Judah and defiled all the high places where incense had been burned. He destroyed all things pertaining to Baal, even the graves on the mountains. Josiah removed all the houses of the high places. He slaughtered all the priests but, the Lord was not pleased and he said that he would remove Judah from his sight. Pharaoh Nero, King of Egypt, sent for the King of Assyria. King

Josiah went to meet him. When the Pharaoh saw him, he killed him. His servants took him to Jerusalem and buried him. His son, Jehoahaz, became king. He was 23 years old and reigned for three months. Pharaoh took him prisoner at Riblah and he imposed on the land a large tax. Pharaoh made Eliakim king. He took Jehoahaz to Egypt where he died.

Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, came up and Jeoaraakim became his servant and he turned and rebelled against him. Then, the Lord, sent men against him and he died. His son, Jehoiachin, became king of Egypt and did not come out of his land again.

In the 8th year of his reign, Nebuchadnezzar besieged the city and captured Jehoiachin and his household and took all the treasures. Then he led all of Jerusalem into exile. He took Jehoiachin into exile to Babylon. Then the king of Babylon made his uncle, Mallachiah, king and he ruled for 21 years. He rebelled against the king of Babylon. In the 9th year of his reign, Nebuchadnezzar came and besieged the city. The city was under siege until the 11th year of his reign.

The king was captured and sentenced to watch his sons slaughtered before his eyes. The house of the Lord was destroyed. The people that Nebuchadnezzar left in the land made Gedabish king in the 37th year of the exile of Jehoiachin. The king of Babylon released him and set his throne high above the throne of the other kings who were in Babylon.

FIRST CHRONICLES

There was Adam, Sheth, Enosh, Kenan, Mahalheel, Jered, Henroch, Methuselah, Lamech, Noah, Shem,

Ham, Japheth, Gomer, Magog, Madai, Avam, Tubal, Mesheeh, and Tiras. Gomer had three sons, Javan had four sons, Ham had four sons, and the sons of Cush were Seba, Havilah, Sabta, Raamah, and Sabtecha. Cush had a son, Menrod, and he became mighty upon the earth. Mezrain had seven sons. The throne was handed down through the generations.

Israel's sons were Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulum, Dan Joseph, Benjamin, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher. They and their sons sat on the throne. David had six sons born to him in Hebron where he ruled seven years and six months. He ruled in Jerusalem thirty three years. nine sons and daughters were born unto David. The sons were those that David set over the service of song in the house of the Lord. Unto the Lord they rejoiced and sung praises.

Their brethren were appointed in the service of the Lord. Aaron and his sons were appointed for the Holy place to make atonement for Israel. They gave Aaron a house, Hebron, in the land of Judah. The fields of the city and the village, they gave to Caleb, son of Jephunneh. Thus the lands were given out. With all the generations there were 36,000 soldiers for war.

The sons of Benjamin and all their sons numbered over 20,000. The sons of Jedeael numbered over 17,000. Asher's sons, and their sons, were chiefs of the princes and were apt to war. They numbered over 26,000 men. All of Israel were put into the books of the king and was carried off to Babylon.

The house of Benjamin numbered 17,000. The chief fathers of the Levites dwelt in Jerusalem. Jehul dwelt in Gideon. The Philistines fought against Israel and the men of Israel fled. The

lower class pursued Saul and his sons. They killed Jonathan, Abenadab, and Malchishun, the sons of Saul were wounded. Isreal went to David the king. They all went to Jerusalem. David took the castle of Zion which, is the city of David. He built a city around him. The Lord was with him and David fought the Philistines and slew them. The Oadites came unto David and separated themselves. They went over Jordan and overcame all the valleys. The children of Benjamin and Judah came to David. David met them, wanting to know if they had come in peace. When he learned that they did, he welcomed them. At that time, day by day, more people came to help David.

The men who came to David, numbered over 300,000. David sent for the Ark. They carried the Ark out of the house of Abinadab. When they came to the floor of Chidon, Uzza put his hand on the ark, to keep it from falling. God killed him for touching it. David feared God that day and the ark was put in the house of Obededom and stayed there for three months.

David took more wives and had more sons. When the Philistines heard that David was king they came and spread themselves over the valley of Rephaim. David asked God if he should fight them. God told him that he would deliver the Philistines two times and his fame spread. The Lord brought the fear of him to all the nations.

David pitched a tent to make a place for the ark. He called the chief of the fathers of the Levites, and told them to sanctify themselves so they could bring the ark. David, with his captain, brought the ark out of the house of Abededom. As they came into the city, Michal, daughter of Saul, saw David and hated him.

David dwelt in a house, but the Ark was under curtains. It came to pass that the Lord told Nathan, that David should not build a house for the Lord, because he had not dwelt in a house since he had brought up Israel. I have been with you wherever you have walked, and it shall come to pass that when you die, I will bring up your son to reign and he shall establish a throne forever. I will be his father and he shall be my son, and I shall establish him in my house forever.

David then subdued the Philistines and took Gath and her towns. The Moabites became servants of David, and he put garrisons in Edom. Edom became his servants. David reigned over all of Egypt.

When Nahash, the king of Ammon, died, David sent a messenger to comfort his son Hanun. When they arrived, their hair and beards were shorn and they were sent away. They returned to David and told him he was angered. They hired chariots and came to battle.

When David saw them camped, he went to meet them and Joab saw that the battle was set against him. They fled before Abishai and entered into the city. Joab came to Jerusalem and when the Syrians saw that they were losing, they withdrew. David gathered all Egypt and went over the Jordan and set up the battle. The Syrians fled and David killed 7,000 men. When the servants saw that they were defeated, they made peace with David.

Satan provoked David to number Israel. Joab was sent out even though he knew that it displeased the Lord. God was displeased with this and smote Israel.

The Lord sent a message to David telling him

that he offered him three things. Either, three years famine, or three months to be destroyed before his foe, or three days of the sword of the Lord throughout Israel. David said that he wanted to fall into the hand of God. There was a pestilence upon Israel and 70,000 fell. The Lord sent a message to David, telling him to set up an altar to the Lord on the floor of Ornan. David asked for a place on the floor to build the altar and the Lord was pleased. David set about gathering the materials to build an altar and the Lord was pleased. He then called to Soloman, his son, and told him of God's prophecy. That he would have a son, who would be king, and would build a house to the Lord. David made Soloman king over Israel.

Peace was given to Israel so a house could be built. The Levite officers were to wait on the sons of Aaron, for the service of the house of Lord and in the purifying of all things, to keep charge of the house of the Lord. The sons of Aaron were divided for the governors of the sanctuary and governors of the house of the Lord.

God gave to Herman fourteen sons and three daughters. They were given for song in the house of the Lord. The Koshites were divided as partners and overseers. They cast lots according to the house of their fathers, for every gate. Zeohariahs' lot came out northward, Obedom, southward, Shuppem, and Hasah westward. Eastward were six Levites the officers of the kingdom were assigned over the kings treasures.

David called all the princes of the land of Israel and told them of God's prophecy. He told Soloman to serve the Lord with perfect love and build a temple for the ark.

He gave him all the material that he had

gathered. He then told the congregation to serve the Lord. David reigned over Israel for forty years. He died at an old age and Soloman became king.

SECOND CHRONICLES

Soloman was strengthened in his kingdom. He spoke to all of Israel and they went to Gibeon to the tabernacle of God. They offered 1,000 burnt offerings. That night God appeared to Soloman. He asked God to give him wisdom and God heard him. Soloman was determined to build a house to the Lord. He brought thousands of men to do the work and Soloman sent word to the king of Tyre to send him men to work in silver, gold, and bronze. The king answered that he would send the things to the king and Soloman began to build the temple.

When it was finished Soloman brought the ark into the temple. In the temple, Soloman raised his hands and prayed to God. When Soloman had ended his prayer, a fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offerings and sacrifices. Then the king along with all the people offered sacrifices to God.

The Lord appeared to Soloman and told him, that if his people would humble themselves, he would heal the land. Twenty years later the Lord's house was finished. The cities which Huram had restored to Soloman were rebuilt and the children dwelt there. David brought the daughter of Pharaoh out of the city of David to a house he had built for her. He appointed the priests to their services and the Levites to their services as David had commanded.

When the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Soloman she tried to prove Soloman with hard

questions. Soloman answered all her questions. When she saw all that Soloman had, there was no more spirit left in her. She gave the king many gifts and she turned and went away to her own land. Soloman amassed great treasures. He passed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom. He reigned over all the kings from the river into the land of the Philistines, and to the border of Egypt. Soloman reigned 40 years before he died.

Rahoboam succeeded Solomon when he came to Jerusalem. He put together an army to fight Isreal, so that he might take that kingdom. The Lord told him not to fight. He dwelt in Jerusalem and built many cities and fortified them. Rehoboam took a wife, who bore him three children. Then he took a second wife and had three children by her. In all, he had 18 wives, 60 concubines, 28 sons, and 60 daughters.

When the king had strengthened himself, he forsook of the Lord and all Israel with him. In the fifth year, the king of Egypt, came against him and Jerusalem. He took the walled cities of Judah and Jerusalem. But the Lord did not destroy Rehoboam completely. Rehoboam reigned and was in power for forty one years. When he reigned in Jerusalem, he did evil in the sight of the Lord and Abijah reigned.

God came to Azariah and told him that nations had been destroyed. He told him to be strong because his work would be rewarded. When Asa heard this he put away his idols. There were no more wars into the thirty fifth year of the reign of Asa. Then Israel came against Judah and built Ramah, so that no one of Asa could go to or come out.

When Asa died Jehoshaphat reigned in his place

and the Lord was with him. Jehoshaphat sought the Lord. The kingdom was established in his hand. The fear of the Lord fell over all the lands and there was no more war. Jehoshaphat joined with Ahab. Ahab wanted him to go to Ramoth-Gilead. Jehoshaphat called for someone who could talk with the Lord. The prophets told him to go to Ramoth-Gilead and prosper, because it would be given into his hands. He went to Ramoth-Gilead with the king of Israel, and there he was wounded. Ahab was killed and Jehoshaphat returned to his house in Israel.

The people of Moab came against Jehoshaphat, prayed for deliverance and the Lord heard him. He reigned for twenty five years in Jerusalem and walked in the way of the Lord. When he died, Jehoram, his son took the throne.

The Edomites revolted from Judah and made a king and sinned in the eyes of the Lord. The Lord stirred up the Philistines and they came against him and carried away all his family, except for his youngest son, Jehoahaz. When Jehoahaz died, Ahaziah became king. He walked in the house of Ahab for his mother was wicked and counseled him. When Ahaziah died and his mother saw him, she killed all the royal offspring but Joash, his son, was stolen away and hidden. He had in the house of God for six years.

Joash's son became king at seven years old and reigned forty years. He had many sons and he decided to restore the house for the Lord. He sent people out to collect money. The king and Jehoiada gave the money to the workers. The house of the Lord was restored and the money that was left over, was given to the king. He made utensils for the house of the Lord. Je-

hoiada was one hundred and thirty years old when he died. After his death, the house of the Lord was abandoned. They worshipped idols and again wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem. When Zechariah, the son of Jehorida, tried to get the people to return to the Lord, he was stoned to death. The army of the Syrians came and destroyed all the officials. Then Amaziah became king.

When Amaziah was strong, he went to the valley of Salt and struck many men and brought their gods back with him and bowed down to them. The Lord was angry. Amaziah sent word to Joash to come out and face him. When they met, Joash captured Amaziah and brought him to Jerusalem. He took all the treasures from the house of the Lord and with his hostages, returned to Samaria. From that time Amaziah turned away from the Lord and he was conspired against.

He fled to Lachish, but was pursued and killed. Uzziah became king and reigned for 52 years. He continued to seek God. He fought the Philistines and God helped him. When he became strong he also sinned against God. The priests of the temple objected to him burning incense there. The Lord caused Uzziah to have leprosy and he died a leper. His son, Jotham, became king. The people continued to sin against the Lord.

He fought the Ammonites and prevailed over them and died after reigning for sixteen years. Ahaz became king and he sinned against God. He worshipped Baal and was delivered into the hand of the king of Syria. He was buried in the city of Jerusalem for they did not bring him to the tombs of the kings of Israel.

Hezekiah became king and reigned 29 years. The people assembled and consecrated themselves

and went to cleanse the house of the Lord. When the house was clean, Hezekiah came and worshipped the Lord. The people were happy. Hezekiah did what was good and he prospered.

Sennachirin, King of Assyria, invaded Judah. When Hezekiah saw this, he cut off the water supply to the enemy. He told his army not to fear the King of Assyria. Sennachirin tried to convince the people of Jerusalem that Hezekiah was a bad king. He told them they were being deceived. Hezekiah became ill and prayed to the Lord and was given a sign, but he gave not thanks for the benefits he had received because he was too proud. When he died, his son Manasseh, became king at the age of twelve.

He did evil in the sight of God, and served the idols and he misled Judah. When he died Amon became King and he also did evil. His servants conspired against him and put him to death. The conspirators were killed and Josiah became king. He was a righteous man and tore down all the altars and idols of Baal and rebuilt the house of the Lord. He made everyone serve the Lord. He then celebrated the passover in Jerusalem. All celebrated for seven days. When all was right in the temple, the King of Egypt, Nero, came up to make war against them. Josiah went to meet him. Nero told him not to fight, but Josiah ignored him and was wounded. He was taken to Jerusalem where he died and Jehoahaz became king.

The king of Egypt depressed him at Jerusalem and imposed a fine on the land. The King of Egypt made Eliahim king over Jerusalem and Judah. He was 25 years old when he began his reign.

Nebuchadnezzar captured him and took him to Babylon. Kohokim became king in his place. He

was evil and reigned three months. Nebuchadnezzar took him to Babylon and made Zedekial king over Judah and Jerusalem. He was 21 years old. He did evil in God's sight. He stiffened his heart against God. God was angry and sent word to them again and again but, he was mocked. Then he brought up the king of chaldees, who killed all the young men and he had no compassion for them. Those who escaped death were taken to Babylon and became servants under the rule of the Kingdom of Persia.

EZRA

In the first year of Cyrus the King, the Lord stirred up his spirit and made a proclamation. The Lord had given me all the kingdoms of earth and charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem. "Who of you will help me?" They all gathered up and went to Jerusalem to build the Lord's house.

Cyrus, the king, brought all of the Holy Vessels. All together he brought 5,400 vessels. After the seventh month the children came together in unity. They made burnt offerings and free will offerings to the Lord. They gave money to the carpenters and masons who would be doing the work. On the second year in Jerusalem, all men twenty years old or older were charged to rebuild the tabernacle of the Lord.

When the foundation was finished the priests sounded their trumpets and much rejoicing was done. They came together giving praise to the Lord. The adversaries of Judah tried to stop the building. They told the king, that once the walls of the city were restored, they would not pay tribute or taxes to him. The king or-

dered the work to stop.

However, after awhile, the prophets began to resume their work. They were asked who gave them permission to restart the building. "We are the servants of God of Heaven and Earth." They were then allowed to continue their building.

Darius made a decree confirming the decree of Cyrus and again ordered the work on the temple. He ordered burnt offerings to be made. If anyone were to alter this decree he ordered that a large timber fall across their house and then they were to be hung from the timbers.

The governors and the elders of the Jews built and prospered. On the third day of Ada, in the sixth year of Darius, the house of the Lord was finished. After the completion of the temple, the observance of Passover was resumed.

NEHEMIAH

Nehemiah, who went to Jerusalem, and about his task of seeing to the repair of the walls and gates and all that belonged to the houses. The priests and the peasants of the land responded to the cry for help to rebuild the walls and gates in all earnest. They worked without thought, even unto the ruler of Methhai. The Lord's followers became firmly committed to his commandments, statutes and laws. The walls and gates were rebuilt with this inherit quality of obedience.

The people of wealth gave immense amounts of coin and garments irrevocably and without favor, without thought of reward for themselves. A careful list of names was written of priests and tribal leaders to note which men were made responsible before the Lord. In all ways of

belief and prayer, the covenant sat down every way and manner of carrying on, even the slightest detail concerning singers as well as the kings command.

On the appointed day of the dedication of the wall, all festivities and all the congregation of these lists of families, gathered to celebrate. There was throughout the lands, in those days, a spirit of oneness that never has been equaled. Nehemiah proved himself a conscientious governor by keeping close tabs with what went on. Making the rulers bear down on their duties and carry out matters with the least amount of difficulty. He continually reminds the Lord to remember him and his God.

ESTHER

King Ahasuerus who reigned from India to Ethiopia and 127 provinces, lived in Susa, the capitol. In the third year of his reign the king gave a banquet for all his princes and attendants. The army officers of Persia and Media, the nobles and the princes of his provinces were there. He displayed his riches for 180 days. When it was over, he gave a banquet for all the people in Susa. The chinks were served in golden vessels and the royal wine was plentiful.

King Ahasuerus had a queen named Vashti who was giving a banquet for the women of Susa. On the seventh day of the banquet, the king was very merry from the wine and commanded Mehuman, and several others, to bring the queen to him so he could display her beauty to the people. The queen refused to go. The king then became angry and said to all who knew the law and ask-

ed them what he should do with the queen for not obeying him. It was decided that the queen was to come into the presence of the king no more and her royal position was to be given to one more worthy of it.

The king's attendants who served him said, "Let beautiful virgins be sought for the king." Overseers were appointed to gather every beautiful virgin and to bring them to the harem into the custody of Hegai, the king's eunuch. There was a man in Susa, the capitol, whose name was Mordecai. He was raising a girl, Esther, whose parents had died. When they gathered the women for the king, Esther went with them to the palace. Hegai took a liking to Esther and put her in the finest harem, where he was to stay for twelve months for the period of her beautification.

The women were taken, one at a time, to the king. When it was Esther's turn, she went to the king. He loved her more than the others. She was to be the queen. Mordecai had told her not to make known her kindred for she was Jew. Mordecai always sat at the gate of the palace.

One day, he overheard Bightan and Teresh, two of the guards planning to harm the king. He told Esther what he had heard and she told the king. The guards were hanged. It was written in the book of records, in the king's presence, of what Mordecai had done.

A man named Haman, came to the king. He was promoted, and given authority over all the princes. All of the king's servants bowed down to Haman, except the one, Mordecai. This made Haman angry. He sent orders to everyone, that all of the Jews were evil, and they were to be killed. When Mordecai learned of this, he put on his clothes and put ashes upon his head and went about

the streets wailing loudly.

Esther's maids went to her and told her of this. She then sent Hatach to talk to Mordecai, to find out why he was doing this. He told her to go to the king and ask him to lift the order that was given to kill the Jews. If she didn't she would never be safe.

Esther went to the King and invited him and Human to come to a feast she was preparing for the next day. The king accepted. That night, the king slept. He ordered the book of records to be brought and read to him. In it, he found writings about Mordecai, which reported the two men who were going to harm the king. The king's servants told him that nothing had been done for Mordecai.

The next morning when Haram came to see the king, the king asked him what he would do for someone who the king wanted to honor. Harman replied, "I would dress him in royal robe and a royal crown, then I would place him on a horse which you have ridden and lead him through the city square." The king then said, "Let it be done."

When Harman came back from the square he went to the feast with the king. As they were sitting there the king asked Esther what he could do for her. Esther told the king what was being done to her people. She also told him that Haram had given the orders for her people to be killed. The king then had Haram hanged. On that day the king gave to Esther the house in which Haram had lived and he gave to Mordecai his ring. The king then told Mordecai he could write a letter to the Jews and all the other people. Haman's orders were to be revoked.

Mordecai then wrote and granted the Jews that were in each and every city, the right to assem-

ble and to defend their lives, to destroy and to kill those who might attack them. The Jews assembled in their cities to lay their hands on those who sought them. Even all the princes, the governors, and those who were doing the kings business assisted them. The Jews struck out killing and destroying. On the thirteenth day of the twelfth month the death count was reported to the king. They also took Haram's sons and hanged them on the gallows. On the next day the Jews killed a total of 75,000 people. On the fifteenth day, they rested and it was a day for feasting. The Jews then assembled and established customs for themselves and their descendants, to celebrate their victory. Mordecai became great among the Jews because he sought good for his people and he also spoke up for the welfare of the whole nation.

JOB

There was a man named Job who lived in the land of UZ. He was an upright, God fearing man, turning away from evil. Job had seven sons and three daughters. He also possessed 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, and hundreds of oxen.

Job's sons would take turns having a feast and drinking in each others house along with their sisters. When their days of feasting had completed their cycle, Job would give burnt offerings for each of them.

There was a day when the sons of God presented themselves before the Lord and Satan came with them. The Lord asked Satan where he had come from. He replied, "I came from walking around the earth." He then asked Satan, "Have you considered my servant, Job, for he is up-

right and fearing God?" Satan asked, "Does he really fear God? If, you put your hand on him, he shall only curse you to your face." The Lord told Satan that all that was Jobs was in his power, but he was not to put his hand on him.

On the day that his sons and daughters were drinking there came destruction to his land, animals, and servants. His sons and daughters were crushed by a wind which blew the house down on top of them. When Job heard about this, he arose and tore his robe and fell to the ground. Through out all of this, Job did not sin or blame God.

There was again a day when the sons of God came to the Lord and Satan also came. God told Satan that Job still held fast his integrity, even through all you have incited against him. Satan said, "If you touch him, he will curse you." Satan then smote Job with sore boils. Job's wife said, "Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die." But with all of this he did not sin.

When Job's three friends heard what had happened, they came to comfort him. They sat with him for seven days and nights. No one spoke a word, for they saw he was in great pain. Afterward Job cursed the day he was born. He said, "Let that day perish and be darkened."

Job, and his friends, sat there exchanging their ideas about God. The Lord came down and told his friends that his wrath was kindled on them. He told Job to pray for them because he had spoken of the Lord which was not right. The Lord restored the fortunes of Job and increased two times what Job had before. He also had, seven sons and three daughters. Job lived for 140 years and saw his children for four generations.

ECCLESIASTES

The son of David preached, what good does a man have in his work, generations go, but the earth goes on. The sun rises and sets, the wind continues to blow and the rivers flow to the sea, but man is not satisfied with seeing or hearing.

The preacher had long been king over Israel. He had built many homes, planted many vineyards and had many slaves. He hated life because it seemed futile. There is nothing better than to eat and drink but, it is futile without having come from the land of God. There is an appointed time for everything. God has made every thing appropriate in its own time.

I look at the oppressed and I see their tears, I have seen wickedness instead of righteousness. God has surely tested them, for the fate of men and beasts is the same. From dust they come, to dust, they will return. I have seen that there is nothing better than for men to be happy in his activities. I look at the tears of the oppressed and I congratulate the dead.

"Go to the house of God and listen, but do not be hasty with words, always pay your vow to God. Do not say sinful things. To love money is a vanity. Do not be overly righteous or overly wise. Do not be overly wicked or be a fool. Wisdom strengthens man more than anything. I say, "Keep the command of the king, because of the oath before God. He who keeps a royal command has not trouble, for a wise heart knows the correct time."

There is one fate for everyone, both righteous and wicked. The living know that they will die, the dead know nothing. Go then, eat your bread, drink your wine in happiness, for God has already approved your works. Enjoy life with the women you love, whatever work you do, do it with might. Wisdom is better than strength, better than the weapons of war, but one sinner destroys much good. Cast down your breads upon the waters, for you will find it after many days. Divide your bread, because you do not know what misfortune may occur. Sow your seeds in the morning, but do not be idle in the evening. If a man lives many years let him enjoy them all. Remove vexation from your heart, for time is fleeting. Remember God in your youth. Fear God and keep his commandments. This applies to every person. God will bring everything to judgement, both good and evil.

ISAIAH

Isaiah had a vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem. "The sons that I have brought up, have revolted against me, your land is desolate, your cities are burned. Hear me, I have had enough burnt offerings. I take no pleasure in them. They have become a burden to me. Make yourselves clean. Therefore, I declare, I will avenge myself on my foes. I will restore your judges and you will be called righteous. Zion will be redeemed with justice, but transgressors and sinners will be crushed. Thus they shall burn together and there will be none to quench the fire. In the last days, the mountains of the house of the Lord will be established. The law will go forth from Zion and there will be no more war. Behold, the Lord will remove from Jerusalem and Judah. Both supply and support, both of bread and water. The mighty warrior and men. Mere children will rule over them. Jerusalem has stumbled and Judah fallen."

The Lord has also said, "Because the daughters of Zion are proud and walk with their head high, therefore the Lord will smite their heads. It will come about that where there was a sweet smell, there will be stink and the men shall fall by the sword. In that day seven women shall take hold of one man. We will eat our own bread and wear our own apparel. Let us be called by thy name.

"It shall come to pass, that those who are left in Zion and Jerusalem, shall be called holy. The vineyard of the Lord of hosts, is the house of Israel and the men of Judah his pleasant plant. Woe unto them that call evil good and

good evil. Therefore, is the anger of the Lord kindled against his people. He has stretched forth his hand against them. A nation will rise, whose arrows are sharp, their roaring like a lion and in that day they will roar against them and the land will be full of darkness." Isaiah said, "I saw the Lord upon a throne and I knew that I was undone, because my lips were unclean and I dwelt among men with unclean lips. The Lord touched my lips and my sins were purged."

The Lord asked, "Whom shall I send?" I answered, "Send me.", and he said, "Go and tell your people, hear ye indeed, but understand not." Make the heart of the people fat, their eyes heavy, until the cities be wasted without inhabitants and the land absolutely desolate.

It came to pass that Pekah went up against Jerusalem, but could not prevail. The Lord told Isaiah, "Go to Ahaz and tell him not to fear." The Lord spoke and told Ahaz to ask for a sign. Ahaz answered the Lord, "I will not tempt thee." The Lord said, "I will give you a sign, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call himself Emmanuel, for unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given and the government shall be upon his shoulder and his name shall be called wonderful counselor, the mighty God, the everlasting father, the Prince of Peace." Therefore, the Lord shall set against him and join his enemies together and they shall devour Israel. For the people do not seek the Lord of Hosts. The Lord shall cut off from Israel, head and tail, branch and bush, 'in one day'. It shall come to pass in that day that the remnant of Israel upon the house of Jacob, shall stay upon the Lord in truth. It shall come to pass that the burden of Assyria shall be taken from

Israel.

Behold, the Lord shall lap the bough with terror and the high ones will be hewn down and the lofty shall be humbled and Lebanon shall fall by a mighty one. There will come a son out of Jesse and the spirit of the Lord will rest on him. I will make him understand the fear of the Lord. He will judge righteously. Again the Lord set his hand to recover the remnant of his people. He will gather the outcasts of his people from the four corners of the earth and they will fly against the Philistines. They shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab and the children of Ammon shall obey them.

Isaiah saw the burden of Babylon. Hear Ye, for the hand of the Lord is near, it shall come as a destruction from the almighty and they shall be afraid. Sorrows shall take hold of them. Every man shall take hold of them. Every man shall be killed and his household destroyed. I will stir up the Medes against them, and Babylon shall be as when the Lord overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. Her days shall not be prolonged.

The Lord will have mercy on Jacob and choose Israel and sit them in their own land. It will come to pass that the Lord will give rest from sorrow and from fear. The Lord has said, "I will break the Assyrian in my land."

Therefore, I will water thee with my tears for the summer fruits and for thy harvest which has fallen. It shall come to pass, that when Moab is weary, that he shall come to pray but he shall not prevail. The glory of Jacob will be thin, and in that day, a man shall look to his maker and respect the Lord, but God shall rebuke them and they shall flee far off.

The Lord rideth a cloud and it shall come unto

unto Egypt. Egyptians will fight with Egyptians, brother against brother, nation against nation. The spirit of Egypt shall fail and I will destroy them. The Egyptians shall give over to the Lord. A cruel king shall rule them. Waters shall fail, the river will be dry, everything planted shall die. There will be no more fish and they shall be broken. Neither shall there be any work for Egypt, and she will fear because of the shaking of the hand of the Lord.

In that day, five cities of Egypt shall speak the tongue of Canaan and swear to the Lord of Hosts, and the Lord shall be known to Egypt and they shall know the Lord. They shall make a vow unto the Lord. Assyrians shall come unto Egypt and the Egyptians shall serve with the Assyrians. In that year, Tartan came into Ashdod and fought them. The Lord said, "As Isaiah has walked barefoot and naked for three years, so shall the King of Assyria lead away the Egyptians to their shame." Babylon will fall with all her graven images. The burden will fall upon Arabia in the forest. The burden of Dumah will come. In the forest in Arabia you will lodge the companies of Dedamin. The inhabitants brought water to the thirsty. They fled from the sword, and the Lord said to me, "Within one year, all the glory of today shall fail and the children of Kedar shall be diminished."

In the valley the rulers have fled, they are bound by the Archers. It is a day of trouble and I weep bitterly. It shall come to pass that the valley will be full of chariots and the horsemen shall come to the gates. In that day, the nail that is fastened in the sure place will be removed, and be cut down and fall. The burden that was upon it shall be cut off.

The Lord makes the world empty and it shall

be to everyone. The land shall be utterly empty. The earth is delided under its inhabitants because they have transgressed. It shall come to pass that the Lord shall punish the host of the high ones and the king of the earth and they shall be gathered as prisoners and shut up.

A song will be sung in Judah saying we have a strong city, salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks. They will keep him in perfect peace for the Lord is Jehovah. I will distress Ariel and there shall be sadness and thou shall be brought down. "Woe unto the rebellious, that take counsel, but not of me, for every man shall be cast away for his idols....Behold, a king shall rule in righteousness."

When Hezekiah became ill, Isaiah told him that he would die, but he prayed to God and more years were given to him. Merodachbaladan, son of the king of Babylon, sent gifts to Hezekiah and he showed them his riches. Isaiah came to Hezekiah and told him, "Behold, the day will come when all you have stored will be carried away to Babylon. Even your sons will become servants to the king of Babylon. Behold, the former things I have said will come to pass and new things do I declare. Sing a song of praise to the Lord. I will make waste, mountains and hills, and will make the rivers dry up.

Now saith the Lord, "Fear not, for I have redeemed thee, when you pass through the water, I will be with thee. For I am the Lord, thy God, the holy one of Israel. I will bring my children from all corners of the earth. I am ever the Lord. People will spring up and call themselves by many names, but I am the first and I am the last and beside me there is no God. And the Lord said to Cyrus, "I will open the gates to you. I

form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create evil. I am the Lord and do all things. Israel shall be saved in the Lord with an everlasting salvation. Tell ye and bring them near, I am the Lord and there is no God but me, look unto me and be saved all the ends of the earth.

Thus sayeth the Lord, "Keep ye judgement and do justice for my salvation is near, cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice and show my people transgressions. Then shall thy light break forth. Then you shall call and the Lord will answer. The Lord shall guide you and satisfy your soul, and you shall build up your gates. They shall always be open and shall not be shut by night or day.

In Zion's sake, I will not hold my peace and for Jerusalem's sake, I will not rest, and the gentiles shall see righteousness. For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, and it will come to pass that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, and they shall go forth and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me, for their warmth shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched, and they shall be abhorring unto all flesh."

JEREMIAH

The Lord told Jeremiah what was to come. He told him to speak to the people and stand up against them, because he would be protected. The Lord told Jeremiah of the evils performed, that he would avenge himself. He told Jeremiah that the people had forgotten him. He told about Israel's sins, but Israel had proved more righteous than Judah. He told Jeremiah to implore

the people to return to God. "And I will bring you into Zion and they will call Jerusalem the throne of the Lord." The Lord told Judah and Jerusalem to return to God and his wrath would go out. "My people are foolish, they know me not. They do not know how to be good. The earth is formless and void, the heavens have no light, the mountains quake and the fruitless land is a wilderness. The land will be desolate and the heavens above dark. I shall punish them. Flee from Israel because a siege will come against her. The city will be punished, and land not inhabited. I am full of wrath and I am weary from holding it."

The Lord said, "Seek the ancient path where the good is and listen to the sound of the trumpet." Because they have not listened to me, they will perish. Behold, a people is coming from the north and they will have no mercy. A destroyer will come upon us. Behold, days are coming when it will be called the valley of slaughter and I will make to cease the voice of joy and gladness. The bones of the Kings of Judah will be brought up and laid on the ground and death will be chosen instead of life. Behold, the day is coming when I will punish those who have done evil. Tell everyone that the gods that did not make the earth shall perish from the earth.

The Lord told Jeremiah to tell the people, "Cursed is the man who does not know the word of the covenant that I commanded your ancestors. I warned your fathers to listen to my voice, yet they did not obey. They have turned back to the iniquities of their ancestors and do not listen to my words. Behold, I will bring disaster from which they will not escape, I will bring disaster on the men of Anathoth. It will come, that when

I have uprooted them, I will bring them back to his inheritance. The people will mourn. There will be no rain, the earth will crack, the wells will be dry, there will be no more vegetation. You have sinned against me. Do not pray these people, I am not going to listen to their cries. I shall appoint over them four kinds of doom, the swords to slay, the dogs to drag off and the birds of the sky and the beasts of the earth to devour and destroy. I shall make them an object of horror. You shall not take a wife or have a son in this place. The children born in this place and the mothers who bear them and the father who begot them will die of a deadly disease. Do not mourn them, for I have withdrawn my peace from them. I will destroy this place in your time."

Jeremiah came from Topheth where the Lord had sent him to prophesy and told the people that their city would be destroyed. When Pashur, a priest, heard Jeremiah say these things, he had him beaten and put into stocks. The Lord said he was going to make Pashur a terror to himself and his friends. He would fall by the sword of his enemies.

The Lord told Jeremiah to go to the king Judah and tell him to do justice and righteousness and deliver the one who has been robbed from the power of his oppressor. Do not mistreat or do violence to the stranger or the widow. If he does these things his house will become a desolation. The Lord said to the shepherds, "Who attends this flock?" You are destroying and scattering my people out of this country. I will attend to you for the will you have done. I will gather the remnant of my flock and they will be fruitful and multiply. The word of the Lord has

come to me and I have spoken to you, but you have not listened. He said turn now everyone from your evil ways and deeds and dwell on the land which the Lord has given you. Because you have not listened, the Lord will take all the families from the north and send them to Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon. My servant will bring them against this land. You will serve the king for seventy years.

Jeremiah was to tell all the people what the Lord had said and he was not to leave out a word. When he did, all the people, the priests and the prophets seized him and told him he must die because he had told them that the house would be desolated if they would not follow God's commands. The officials then came and Jeremiah told them that the Lord had sent him and if they were to put him to death the Lord would bring innocent blood on them and their city. The officials said he was not to be put to death because God had sent him.

The Lord told Jeremiah to write all the words he had spoken and in a book, for the days were coming when he would restore fortune to his people. He said he would also bring them back to the land which he had given to their forefathers. They shall possess it, and it shall come that strangers will no longer make them slaves. At that time, I shall be the God of all the houses. They will respect my words when I restore their fortune.

Jeremiah was told to buy Hanameel's field. Hanameel's son came saying, "Buy my field and then I will know that this was the word of the Lord." Jeremiah bought the land and signed the deed which he then placed into an earthen jar.

For the Lord had said house and field will once again be bought in the land.

Zedekiah soon became king in the land of Judah. But neither he nor his servants listened to the words of the Lord. Jeremiah told them the Chaldeans will fight against the cities and they will capture and burn it to the ground.

Jeremiah went to the land of Benjamin to take possession of some land. While he was there, a guard arrested him. He was taken to the officials, beaten and put in prison for many days. King Zedekiah sent and took him out, and in secret he asked if there had been word from the Lord. The king placed Jeremiah in the court of the guard house and he stayed there until all the bread from the bakers' street was gone. Pashurri remembered him saying that there would be a famine so he told the king that he should be put to death because all of this was his fault. The king had no choice but to give him over to them, because he could do nothing against them. They took Jeremiah and cast him into a cistern which had no water, just mud. Jeremiah sank into the mud, out of sight. Ebedmelech heard what had happened to Jeremiah and he went to the king saying that those men had acted wickedly in all that they had done. The king commanded thirty men to go get Jeremiah and Ebedmelech stayed in the court of the guardhouse until the king sent for him.

The king asked Jeremiah to tell him everything. Jeremiah said, "If I tell you everything then you will surely have me put to death." But the king swore in secret, saying as the Lord lives, who made this life for us, surely he would not put him to death. Jeremiah told the king what the Lord has sent him to say. Jeremi-

ah then stayed in the court of the guardhouse until the day Jerusalem was captured.

When Jerusalem was captured in the ninth year of Zedekiah, king of Judah, the captain of the guardhouse released Jeremiah and told him and the other people that they could come to Babylon or they could go anywhere else.

Zedekiah was twenty-one when he became king. He reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. He did evil in the eyes of the Lord. In his ninth year the king of Babylon came with his army and built a siege wall around Jerusalem. On the ninth day, of the fourth month, they captured the king and took him to the king of Babylon who passed sentence on him. They slaughtered all his sons before his eyes and all the princes of Judah. Then he blinded him, put him in bronze shackles, and put him in prison where he stayed until the day he died.

He then burned the house of the Lord, the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem. Nebuchadnezzar's captain of the guard carried away some of the poorest people, but he left some to be plowmen. He also took the chief priest and the second priest with three officers of the temple and put them to death.

It came about in the thirty-seventh year the king of Babylon showed favor to Jehoiachin and brought him and set his throne above all the other kings who were with him. He had his meals in the king's presence all the days of his life and a regular allowance was given to him.

LAMENTATIONS

The city of Judah was captured along with all of her governors, princes and chiefs, because her inhabitants had grievously sinned. The Lord caused her honor and glory to be stripped.

The Lord has put heavy judgement on Judah, the daughter of Zion. Her gates have been sunk into the ground. However, there is still hope through God's mercy.

EZEKIEL

In the thirteenth year, while I was by the river Chebar, the heavens opened up and I saw the visions of God. The word of the Lord came to Ezekiel and the hand of the Lord came upon him. As Ezekiel looked the storm of the Lord came from the North, a great cloud with fire, a bright light around it, and in its midst there was something like glowing metal. There were figures resembling four living beings. They had human form, each had four faces and four wings. Their legs were straight and their feet were like calf hooves. They gleamed like burnished bronze. Under their wings they had hands. Their faces moved straight, never turning. Over their heads there was something like a throne and high up was a figure with the appearance of a man. Then Ezekiel noticed a radiance around him. The appearance of a cloud on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the Lord.

Ezekiel said, "When I saw it, I fell to the ground and I heard a voice speaking. He said, 'Son of man, stand on your feet so I may speak to you.'" He said he was sending Ezekiel to

the sons of Israel that have rebelled against the Lord. The Lord told Ezekiel not to fear them. He told him to speak his words whether they listened or not. The Lord said, "when he says to the wicked you shall surely die and if you do not warn them, then their blood shall surely be on his head. But, if Ezekiel warns them, then they shall die in their iniquity, but you shall deliver yourself...."

The Lord then told me to go to the mountains of Israel and say to them, if you do not listen to the words of God, then he shall destroy your high places. He shall cause your land to become desolate and your incense altars will be smashed. He will slay the people and any of them by the altars. He will also scatter your bones. Those who escape, will be scattered among the countries. The Lord told Ezekiel to go live in the midst of the rebellious house.

Once when some elders of Israel came and sat down in front of Ezekiel, he asked God if he should consult with them, for they had sat up idols in their hearts and put before their faces the stumbling block of iniquity.

The Lord said, anyone who does as you say, I shall have to give him an answer in the view of the idols. Then the word of the Lord came saying, "if a country sins against me by committing unfaithfulness, its supply of bread will cease. I will send famine and cut them off from both man and beast." The Lord said, "if a man practiced extortion and robbed his brother and did not do good among his people, he will die. However, his son should not bear his father's punishment when he was practiced justice and righteousness. If a wicked man turns from all his sins which he has committed and observes and

practices justice and rightness, he shall surely live."

In the seventh year, the Lord said to tell the sons of Israel if they come to inquire of me as I live, I will not be inquired of by you. Make them know the abominations of their fathers. The Lord said, "I am about to kindle a fire in you and it shall consume every green tree in your land as well as every dry tree. The blazing flame will not be quenched and the whole surface from south to north will be burned up."

The Lord said, "Son of man, set your face toward Jerusalem and speak against the sanctuaries and prophesy against the land of Israel. Say to them, thus says the Lord, "Behold, I am against you and shall draw my sword out of its sheath and cut you off from the righteous and the wicked. My sword shall go forth against all flesh, from the south and the north. Ezekiel, you shall mark a way for the word to come to Rabbah, the sons of Ammon, and to Judah into fortified Jerusalem. For the king of Babylon stands at the parting of the way at the head of the two ways. To use divination he shakes the snows, he consults the household idols. He looks at the river. You will bring to iniquity, to remembrance, that they may be seized. Son of man, you will judge the bloody city and cause her to know all her abominations. You shall say a city shedding blood in her midst, so that her time will come and make idols, contrary to her interest for defilement."

"You have become guilty by the blood you have shed and defiled by the idols which you have made. For this, you have brought your day nearer. Therefore, I have made you a reproach to the nations and a mocking to all the lands. Because all of you have become dross, I am going to gather you

into the midst of Jerusalem. As they gather silver and brass and iron and lead and tin into the furnace, to blow fire on it in order to melt it; so the Lord shall gather you in his anger and in his wrath. He shall lay you there, and melt you."

The Lord came to me saying, "there are two women, the daughters of one mother; and they played the harlot. They have defiled themselves. Thus were their names: Samaria is Aholah, and Jerusalem Aholibah. The Lord said that he will set their lovers against them and they will come against them with their weapons, chariots and wagons and with a company of people. They will set themselves against you on all sides."

The Lord said to Ezekiel, "Set your face toward the sons of Ammon and prophesy against them. Tell them to hear the word of the Lord. Because you said Aha. Against my sanctuary when it was profaned and against the land of Israel, when it was made desolate and against the house of Judah when they went into exile. Therefore, I am going to give you to the sons of the east for possession and they will set their encampments among you. They take your fruit and drink your milk. Because you have clapped your hands and stamped your feet and rejoiced against the land of Israel, I have stretched my hand out against you and I shall give you of spoil to the nations."

In the eleventh year the Lord came to Ezekiel saying, "The gateway of the people is broken, it has opened to me. I shall be filled now that she is layed wasted. Therefore, the Lord is against you Tyrus, and I bring up many nations against you as the sea brings up its waves. They will destroy the walls of Tyrus and break down her towers: I will scrape her debris from her and

make her a bare rock."

In the tenth year, the Lord came to me saying, "Son of man, set your face against Pharaoh, King of Egypt, and prophesy against him and against all Egypt. 'Behold, I am against you.' The great monster that lies in the midst of his rivers. I shall put hooks in your jaws, and make the fish of your rivers cling to your scales. I shall abandon you to the wilderness. You will face on the open field and you will not be brought together or gathered. I have given you for food to the beasts of the earth and to the birds of the sky. Then all the inhabitants will know that I am the Lord."

The Lord said, "Son of man, speak to the sons of your people saying, 'If I bring a sword upon a land and the people of the land take one man from among you and make him their watch man and he sees the sword coming and he blows the trumpet and warns the people then he who hears the trumpet and does not heed the warning and the sword takes him away, his blood will be upon his own head. But, if the watchman sees it coming and does not warn the people and the sword comes and takes any person, his blood will be required from the watchman's hand.'"

"As for you, Son of Man, I have appointed you a watchman for the house of Israel. You will hear a message from me and you will give them a warning from me. Say to the House of Israel, surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us and we are rotting away in them, how then can we survive?"

The Lord says, "As he lives he takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from their ways and live. Turn back from your evil ways; why then will you die,

O House of Israel? Then the Lord told me to prophesy against the shepherds of Israel. Say to them the Lord God says 'Woe, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding themselves. Should not the shepherds feed the flocks? You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat sheep without feeding the flock. You do not strengthen those who are sick. You do not help the diseased. You do not heal the broken. You have not bound up the scattered. You have not brought them back, but with force and with severity you have dominated them.'

They were scattered for lack of a shepherd and they became food for every beast of the field. Therefore, hear the word of the Lord as he lives. "Surely because my flock has become a prey, my flock has even become food for the beasts. Therefore, I am against the shepherds and I shall demand my sheep from them and make them cease from feeding the sheep. The shepherds will not feed themselves any more; but I shall deliver my flock from their mouth, that they may not lie food for them. For behold, I the Lord, will search for my sheep and seek them out. I will establish for them a renowned planting place, and they will not again be victims of famine in the land. They will not endure the insults of the nations anymore."

Moreover, the Lord told Ezekiel to go prophesy against Mount Seir, and say to it, "Behold, the Lord is against you and he will stretch his hand against you, he will also make a desolation and waste. Because you have had everlasting enmity, you have delivered the sons of Israel to the power of the sword. Therefore, I will give you over to bloodshed and it will pursue you. I will fill Mount Sier's mountains with its slain. In your

hills, and on your valley, and in all your ravines, those slain by the sword will fall.

"In the twenty-fifth year of exile, in God's Visions, he brought me into the mountain. On it, to the south there was a structure like a city. He brought me there and in the gateway of the city was a man whose appearance was like that of bronze, with a line of flax and a measuring rod in his hand. The man said to me, 'Behold, see with your eyes, and hear with your ears, and give attention to all which I show you because you are to tell Israel of what I am going to show you'."

"The man took me through the city measuring everything and then he led me to the gate of the city which was facing east: and behold, the glory of God was coming and his voice was like the sound of many waters and the earth shone with his glory, and I fell to my face. The glory of the Lord lifted me up and brought me into the inner place, my throne, and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell among the sons of Israel forever. The house of Israel will not again defile my Name, neither they nor their kings by their harlotry and by the corpses of their kings when they die. Let them put away their harlotry and corpses and I shall dwell with them forever. As for you, Son of Man, go describe the temple to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities and let them measure the plan.

He then brought me back by the way of the outer gate of the sanctuary, which faces east, and it was shut. The Lord said, "the gate is shut and no one shall enter by it because the God of Israel has entered by it."

The Lord told Ezekiel to divide by lot the land for inheritance. Offer an abatement to the Lord, a holy portion of land: the length shall be the

length of twenty-five thousand cubits and the width shall be ten thousand. It shall be holy within all its boundries around it. Out of this property you are to make a portion of it into a square for the priests and the ministers of the sanctuary, who come near to minister to the Lord: and it shall be a place for their houses and a holy place for the sanctuary. You are to divide the land up to the tribes from the northern extremity beside the way of Hethlon to Berothah. As far as Hazarenan to the border of Damascus, toward the north beside Hamath running from east to west. It shall be an allotment to them and they cannot sell the land. These portions shall be the city and its name shall be, The Lord is There.

DANIEL

Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, overpowered Jerusalem and conquered it in the third year of Jehoiakim's reign. At this time, God told him to take the sacred vessels of his temple to the land of Shinar. The king told Ashpenaz the master, that children should be wise and without blemish. They should have an understanding of science so that they could teach the Chaldeans. The children were given the king's best meat, and wine to drink for three years. Then they were brought before the king.

Among these were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. The prince changed their names to Belteshazzar, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, respectfully. Daniel refused to eat the king's meat or drink his wine. God brought Daniel into a special liking for being so bold to the king. The prince told Daniel that he feared the king and called him Lord. Daniel told Melzar, the guard, to give him and his friends only vegetables and water for ten days to prove his loyalty to God. They were allowed their wish.

For being so loyal God gave Daniel and his friends knowledge and skill in all learning. Daniel was given understanding of visions and dreams. After the ten days were up, the king called for Daniel and his friends. The king talked to them and was amazed at their wisdom. The king asked a lot of questions and found Daniel and his friends ten times smarter than any of his astrologers or magicians. Daniel stayed there into the first year of King Cyrus.

In Nebuchadnezzar's second year of reign, he was troubled with a terrible nightmare that

he could not understand. Nebuchadnezzar ordered all of his astrologers and sorcerers to tell him what the dream meant. They told him that if he would tell them what the dream was, then they would interpret it for him. The king was angry at them because he knew that they were only stalling for time. He ordered that they all be killed. Daniel heard about this and told the guards to take him to the king so that he could tell the king about his dream. Daniel then told his three friends that they would receive mercy from God concerning this secret, that they would not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. God revealed to Daniel in his sleep what the dream was and what it meant. Daniel blessed God for his mercy.

Daniel was then taken to the King. The King asked Daniel to make it known to him what this dream meant. Daniel said, "cannot your soothsayers reveal this to you?" Daniel then told him that there was in heaven a God who could reveal all things. As for you sir, your thoughts came into your mind while you were in bed.

Daniel told him that the dream was not being revealed because of his wisdom, but to know the thoughts of the king's heart. "Sir, you saw a great image, it was very big, and bright, and stood before you. Its form was terrible. It had a head of gold, his breasts and arms of silver, his belly and thighs of brass, his legs of iron and his feet of clay and iron. You saw a stone hit the image on his feet and break them into pieces. The iron and clay and the brass and silver were also broken and became like chaff of fine dust. Then the stone became a large mountain. This is what you saw, and I will tell you what it means."

The explanations of the dream revealed that this world would have only four Universal powers which would succeed one another. The fourth would be divided into smaller kingdoms which would never succeed in uniting into a world empire. History reveals that Babylon, Medo Persia, Greece, and Rome followed one another and ruled the world in imperial might. The nations of the world will remain disunited until Christ comes to destroy them all and to set up the Kingdom of God. Since you saw the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, God has made it known to you that these things shall happen.

The King was very pleased with Daniel and began to worship him. The King then declared that the God of Daniel is a God of Gods and Lord of Lords. A revealer of great secrets or else he couldn't have known about the king's dream. The king made Daniel a great man and gave him many gifts. He was then made ruler over all provinces of Babylon; but, Daniel sat in the gate of the king.

Nebuchadnezzar then made an image of gold and put it in the plain of Dura. The king ordered all of the princes to come to the dedication of the image. A herald cried out that all the people, nations, and languages should worship the image every time they heard the flute, coronet, or harp sound. If you didn't worship the image, you would be put into a furnace of fire. Everyone worshipped the image as told.

Some people were jealous of Daniel's friends and told the king that they would not worship his image. The king was very mad and ordered the three men to be put into the furnace. They told the king that if it were the will of their God, they would be saved from the fire, but under no circumstances were they going to worship

the king's images or idols.

The king ordered the furnace to burn seven times hotter than usual to be sure that they would not live. The men were tied up and thrown into the furnace. All of a sudden the king looked up and could not believe his eyes, there were four men standing in the furnace. He asked the guards if they had only put three men in. After telling the king the only three men were put into the furnace, the king became afraid. He said that the fourth man looked like the Son of God.

The king went to the furnace and told the men to come out. When they came out only the ropes that they were tied with were burnt, but they didn't even have one hair singed, nor the smell of fire on them. The king said, "Blessed be the God of you who hath sent his angel, and delivered them that trusted in him and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that might not serve not worship any god, except their own God. The king then ordered that if anyone should talk against their God, they shall be killed and their houses made into dunghills. Then the king gave the three men a promotion in the province of Babylon.

Nebuchadnezzar sends his peace and love unto the world. He thought it would be good to tell the people about another dream that the God on high had shown to him in his sleep. God's wonders are great and his kingdom is everlasting.

"While I was sleeping, I had yet another dream, which made me afraid. Bring all the wise men of Babylon to me, to tell me what the dream meant. Soon Daniel came to him and told him that he would tell him the meaning of the dream. The king said that he knew that the spirit of the holy Gods were with him, and he could interpret the

dream.

The king then began telling Daniel about the dream. "While I was sleeping I saw a tree in the middle of the earth, it grew strong and tall and reached into heaven. The leaves were very fair and it had a lot of fruit on it. It was meat for all: the animals in the field found shade under it. The birds of heaven lived in the branches. I saw my head lying on my bed, a watcher and holy one came down from heaven to me. He said "cut down the tree, and cut off the branches and chase away the birds and the animals. However, leave the stump in the ground and put a band of iron and brass around it. Let it stay wet from the dew of heaven. Let his heart be changed from that of man to a beast of the field and let seven years pass." This is an order from the watcher of heaven, so that the living will know God.

At first Daniel was astounded and troubled for an hour. The king told him not to worry about it, just tell him what it all meant. Daniel told the king that the tree stood for him. That he had grown strong and his greatness had reached to heaven and his dominion covered the earth. As for the watcher and the holy one telling him to cut down the tree and leave the stump; meant that the king was to lose his power and to go insane for a period of seven years, after which he would reign and know that the most high is the Lord over all. That the heavens rule the earth. "However, if you give up your sins by righteousness, and show mercy to the poor you can avoid the insanity." All this was put upon Nebachadnezzar's shoulders.

One year later the king walked into his palace and said, "isn't this the great Babylon that

was built from my power and is taken away from you. It was done with my majesty." He no more than said this than God said, "you have spoken, your kingdom is taken away from you." At that time Nebuchadnezzar lost his mind and went into the fields. He lived with the animals for seven years, he regained his sanity and gave praise to God in heaven and honored him for the rest of his years.

After Nebuchadnezzar's death, his grandson, Belshazzar, became king and was called great and wise. He was a boastful man and at one of his parties he ordered the holy vessels from the temple of Jerusalem to be brought to him. He and his guests wanted to drink out of them. They worshipped their pagan gods with them making a toast to the false gods with the vessels. A hand appeared and wrote on the wall, "Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin." The king became afraid.

He sent for Daniel to interpret what the writing meant. Daniel told him that it meant this: Mene, your kingdom and power has been numbered, Tekel, your kingdom is to be divided, you will be found wanting. This pleased the king very much, so he ordered that Daniel be made the third ruler in the kingdom for his wisdom. Belshazzar didn't take heed to the writing on the wall and was killed that night in his sleep. Darius, the medium, then became king, he was about 62 years old.

Darius joyed over being king and placed one hundred and twenty princes to control the kingdom. Daniel was placed to rule over the princes. The princes didn't like that very much, so they set out to try to discredit Daniel before the king. The princes got the king to believe that there should be a law that no one could wor-

ship any god other than the king for thirty days. Daniel would not obey that law and worshipped his god before an open window three times a day.

As soon as the princes found out about this they went to the king and told him about it. The king ordered that Daniel be brought before him. When the king asked Daniel about this, Daniel did not lie, but told the king that he would worship no idol or king other than his God.

The king ordered Daniel to be thrown into the lions den to be executed for disobeying his law. After Daniel was put into the den, the lions were turned loose. The opening to the den was sealed with a stone and the king put his seal upon it to make sure that no one would tamper with the stone.

In the morning the king ran down to see what had happened. To his amazement, there stood Daniel and all of the lions were over to one side lying down paying no attention to Daniel. The king asked Daniel what had happened. He told the king that an angel from God above came down and bound the lions mouths shut and quieted them. The king was very glad for him, because he liked Daniel and it had saddened him to put Daniel into the den. Daniel was saved because he kept his faith in God.

The king ordered all the men that had brought charges against Daniel, to be put into the den and their wives and children too; and they were eaten up. Then the king ordered that all should tremble and fear the God of Daniel. Daniel then became very popular and prospered during the reign of Darius.

During Belshazzar's first year as king, Daniel had a dream. He saw the four winds of heaven.

The first looked like a lion with eagles wings. The second like a bear. The third like a leopard. The fourth looked like a strong beast with big teeth. It trampled the ground and it had ten horns. As I looked at the horns, a little one came up among them. In this little hor there was a face of a man and he told me many things. He said that the throne would be cast down. That thousands ministered to him and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him in judgement. As concerning the other beasts they lost their thrones. I say the Son of Man come with the clouds of heaven and come to the Ancient of days. These visions troubled me. But the saints of heaven shall take the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever.

During the third year of Belshazzar, Daniel had another dream. He saw a ram with two horns of which one was longer than the other. The ram was running westward, northward, and southward so that no beasts could get past him. Then a he goat came from the west and was in the air. The goat had a large horn between his eyes. He ran towards the ram and broke two of his horns and there was no power left in him. The goats great horn had also been broken and four smaller ones grew out from it, pointing towards the south and the east. The goat cast down stars from heaven and stamped up on them. The place of sanctuary was cast down. Truth was cast down to the earth and it prospered. He heard a saint speaking, and then another saying, "unto two thousand and three hundred days then shall the sanctuary be cleansed."

I did not understand. Gabriel said, "let this man understand." I heard a voice and He came near to where I stood and said, "Understand, O

son of man, for at the time of the end, shall be the vision." After this, I Daniel fainted for certain days. Afterwards no one understood me, and I was astonished by the vision.

In the first year of Darius, Daniel understood the number of years that the words of the Lord would come to Jeremiah, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolation of Jerusalem. I turned to the Lord and prayed. Daniel confessed for their transgressions. "To the Lord our God belongs mercy and forgiveness. All Israel has disobeyed your law. And yet O Lord, our God, thou has brought our people out of Egypt with a mighty hand. I ask that your fury be turned from Jerusalem, thy holy mountain."

While I was praying Gabriel, who I saw earlier in a vision, came to me and told me, "I have come to forgive thee for your sins and to give you great skill and understanding, for you are greatly loved in heaven. Seventy weeks are given to your people to stop their sinning and to restore Jerusalem unto the Messiah, the Prince. After threescore and two weeks the Messiah shall be crucified not for himself, but for the people. He will confirm the covenant with many for a week, but in three and one half days he shall make the sacrifice."

In the third year of Cyrus, King of Persia, a thing was revealed to Daniel. In those days, Daniel was mourning three full weeks. Daniel looked up and saw a man clothed in linen and the voice of his words were like a multitude. Daniel became afraid and fell to the ground. A hand reached down and touched Daniel and told him to not be afraid. "You are loved in heaven and I have come for thy words have been heard. I am

Michael, the prince of the angels. I have come to make you understand your visions." As he spoke to me, I faced the ground and became dumb. The Son of Man touched my lips and then I was able to speak. I told him that I was sorry for the sins of my people and I have no strength. He again said you are greatly loved in heaven, peace be unto you, be strong. As he spoke I gained my strength. He said know where I come from, as I will return to fight the king of Persia and the prince of Grecia, but I will show you that what is noted in scripture of truth and there is none that holds these things, but I, Michael, your prince.

Daniel told King Darius that he would show him the truth. That the kingdom would be divided into four smaller areas and they would battle against one another and would destroy one another. The king of the south will end up having the most power, he shall turn his face toward the fort of his own land. He will stumble and fall and not be found. Then a tax collector will stand up in his kingdom and take power. Within a few days he will be destroyed also, but neither by anger or in battle. Then a wicked person shall stand up and not give any honor to the kingdom but come peaceable and obtain the kingdom by flattery and, he shall be broken. He shall work in lies and shall become strong with a small people. He will stir up his power and make war with the king of the south with a great army. Both of these kings shall do mischief and they shall speak lies at one table and return to his land with great riches, and his heart will be against the old covenant, and such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt with flattering. Some of them with un-

derstanding will fall. The king will do according to his own will and make himself above every God. This he will do in the most strongholds with a strange god. At the time of the end, the king of the south will push him and the king of the north will come against him. And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious mountain, yet he shall come to his end and none shall help him.

At that time, Michael, the great prince, shall stand up and there shall be a time of trouble of which the likes has never before been seen. At that time they people shall be delivered, that has been recorded in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust in earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame. But O Daniel, shur up thy words and seal the books until the time of the end. Man shall run to and fro and knowledge will be increased. I, Daniel, looked and there stood two men, one on the bank of the river and the other on the river. The man standing on the river said, "Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. Blessed is he that waits and comes to the 1335 day. But go thy way till the end, for thou shall rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days.

HOSEA

The word of the Lord came to Hosea, the son of Beerli, saying, "go take yourself a wife of harlotry and have children, for the land commits flagrant harlotry forsaking the Lord." Hosea went and took Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son. The Lord said to name him Jezreel for I will punish the

house of Jehu for the bloodshed of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the Kingdom of the house of Israel. It will come about and I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel. Then Hosea's wife bore him a daughter and the Lord said to name her Loruhaman; for the Lord will no longer have compassion on the house of Israel, that I should ever forgive them. But the Lord will have compassion on the house of Judah.

When she had weaned her daughter, she gave birth to another son which the Lord said to name Loammi, for you are not my people, and I am not your God. The Lord said, "tell your brother Loammi and your sister Ruhamah to be content with your mother! For she is not my wife, and I am not her husband; and let her put away her harlotry from her face and her adultery from between her breasts; Lest I strip her naked, and expose her. I will also make her a wilderness, and make her like the desert land, and slay her with thirst. I will also have no compassion for her children. Also make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, the birds of the sky and creeping things of the ground. In that day, I will respond to the heavens and they will respond to the earth and the earth will respond to the grain to the new wine and to the oil. I will say to those who are not my people, "you are my people." They will say, "thou are my God".

The the Lord said to Hosea, go again, love a woman who is loved by her husband, yet an adulteress. Even as the Lord loves the sons of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love raisen cakes. Hosea bought her for fifteen shekles of silver and a homer and a half of barley. Hosea said you shall stay with one of many

days for you shall not play the harlot, nor shall you have a man. I will also be toward you.

Listen to the word of the Lord, O sons of Israel, for the Lord has a case against you. Because there is no faithfulness or kindness or knowledge of God in the land. There is swearing, deception, murder, stealing, and adultery. Therefore, the land mourns. Let no one find fault and let none offer reproof. You will stumble by day and the prophet will stumble with you by night. I will destroy your mother. The more my people multiply the more they sin against me. I will change their wooden idols, for a spirit of harlotry has led them astray.

Hear ye this, O priests of Israel. Listen O house of the king, for the judgement applies to you. You have been a snare at Mizpah and a net spread out on Tabor, their deeds will not allow them to return to their God. For a spirit of harlotry is within them. They do not know the Lord.

Come, let us return to the Lord, for he has torn us. He will heal us, he has wounded us, but he will bandage us. He will revive us after two days. He will raise us up on the third day that we may live before him. Let us press on to know the Lord. His going forth is as certain as the dawn. He will come to us like the rain, the spring rain, watering the earth.

When I would heal Israel, the iniquity of Ephraim is uncovered, and the evil deeds of Samaria, for they deal falsely. On the day our king became sick with heat of wine, he stretched out his hand with scoffers. For their hearts are like an oven. As they approach their plottings, their anger smolders all night. Put the

trumpet to your lips, like an eagle the enemy comes against the house of the Lord. Because they have transgressed my covenant, and rebelled against my law. They cry to me my God. Israel has rejected the good. The enemy will pursue them. They have set up kings, but not by me, they have appointed princes, but I did not know it. With silver and gold they have made idols for themselves. They saw the wind and they reap the whirlwind. The standing grain has no heads. It yields no grain. Should it yield, strangers would swallow it up. Israel is swallowed up. They are now among the nations like a vessel in which no one delights. Ephraim has multiplied altars for him. Though I wrote for him ten thousand precepts of my law. They are regarded as a strang thing.

As for my sacrificial gifts, they sacrifice the flesh and eat it, but the Lord has taken no delight in them. Now he will remember their iniquity and punish them for their sins. They will return to Egypt, for Israel has forgotten his maker and built palaces. The Lord said, "do not rejoice O Israel, with exaltations like the nations. For you have played the harlot, forsaking your God. You have loved harlots earnings. The new wine will fail them. They will not remain in the Lord's land, but Ephraim will return to Egypt and Assyria will eat unclean food. The days of punishment have come.

The Prophet is a fool because of the iniquities. I found Israel like grapes in the wilderness, but they came to Baalim and evoted themselves to shame. They became detestable as that which they loved, their glory will fly away. I come to hate them because of their wickedness.

Israel is a bad wine, he produces fruit for himself. Their heart is faithless. Now they must bear their guilt.

Hosea said, "return Israel to the Lord, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity. Take words with you and return to the Lord! Say to him, take away all iniquity and receive us graciously; so that we may present the fruit of our lips. Assyria will not save us."

The Lord said "my anger has turned away from them. Those who live in his shadow will rise again. They will blossom like the vine of Lebanon. If you say "what more have I to do with idols. It is the Lord who answers and looks after you. Whoever is wise, let him understand these things. For the ways of the Lord are right, and the righteous will walk in them: but the transgressors will stumble in them."

JOEL

The Lord spoke to Joel, "Tell your sons and have them tell all their generations the locust will come and devour the land. The grain will be ruined and the vines will dry up. Dress yourselves in sackcloth and mourn, the day of the Lord is near." Gather the people, assemble the elders and let hem say, "Spare thy people, O Land will have pity on the people and he will remove the northern army from them. Behold, in that time I will restore Judah and Jerusalem. Gather all the nations to the valley of Jehoshaphat and I will enter judgement on them. Edom will become a desolate land because of the violence done to Judah. Judah and Jerusalem will be inhabited forever. For the Lord dwells in Zion.

AMOS

Amos was among the shepherders from Tekoa when he saw visions concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah, Jeroboam and Joash. The Lord said, "For three transgressions of Damascus I will not revoke its punishment. I will send fire on Hazdel. I will break the gate of Damascus and the people of Syria will go into exile. To Gaza fire will be sent and the remnants of the Philistines will perish. Tyrus will be destroyed as will Edom. All the lands that have sinned against the Lord will be destroyed. Even the bravest among the warriors will flee that day. Israel has fallen, she will not rise again." The Lord said to the house of Israel, "Seek me that you may live. Do not seek Bethel, Gilgal or Beersheba for Gilgal will go into captivity and Bethel will come to trouble."

OBEDIAH

The vision of Obediah concerning Edom was, "Behold, I will make you small among nations. You who love in the clefts of the rocks and the loftiness of your dwelling place are despised. From there I will bring you down. Because of violence to your brother Jacob you will be covered with shame. You will be cut off forever. For the day of the Lord draws near on all nations but on Mt. Zion there will be those who escape and it will be holy. There will be no survivors of the house of Esau. The saviors will come to Mt. Zion to judge the mount of Esau and the kingdom will be the Lord's."

JONAH

The word of the lord came to Jonah, "Arise and go to Nineveh and cry against it for the wickedness they have done." But Jonah fled from the Lord and took a boat to Tarshish. When they were at sea a great wind came up and the sailors knew that it was Jonah's fault, They asked him what they should do to make the sea calm again. He told them to throw him into the sea.

The men tried to row to land but the sea grew worse. They picked Jonah up and threw him into the sea. The Lord appointed a large fish to swallow him. Then Jonah prayed to the Lord from the stomach of the fish and the Lord commanded the fish and he vomited Jonah onto dry land.

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time and again told him to go to Nineveh and make the proclamation that in forty days Nineveh would be overthrown. When the king heard this he ordered that all the living things fast and called on

the Lord to relent and turn his anger from them. God relented and it displeased Jonah. He asked the Lord why he had done it and asked the Lord to take his life. Jonah went out of the city and sat on the east side. The lord caused a plant to grow to shade Jonah and he was happy. But the Lord put a worm in it to cause it to wither so Jonah would be scorched by the sun.

MICAH

The Lord God will be a witness against you from his holy temple. The mountains will be mollen under him. He will make Samaria as a heap of the field. All the graven images will be destroyed. I will wail and howl. I will go stripped naked and mourn as the owls.

Woe unto them that devise iniquity and work evil. In that day shall one take up a parable against thee. You will beat your swords into plowshares and your swords into purning forks. In that day I will deliver them. The Lord shall be a light unto me. She that is my enemy whall see it and become ashamed.

They shall lick the dust like a serpent, they shall move out of their holes like the worms of the earth, they shall be afraid of the Lord our God and shall fear him.

He will turn again and have compassion on us. He will subdue bur iniquities. He will cast our sins into the depths of the sea.

NAHUM

The Lord is slow to anger but will not acquit the wicked. The Lord is good and a stronghold in time of trouble. The Lord has turned away the ex-

cellency of Jacob. The shield of his mighty men is made red. Nineveh shall be overthrown. I will cast down abominable filth upon thee. The gates of the city shall be set wide open to thine enemies. O king of Assyria, the nobles shall dwell in the dust.

NABAKKUK

Why does God permit injustice? Behold, I will work a work in your days which you will not believe, although I am telling you. The just shall live by his faith.

ZEPHANIAH

The Lord will destroy all things in Judah, even the fowls of the air. Man will be cut off from the land. Everyone who has turned away from the Lord and turned to Baal will be cut off. You shall work like blind men. No amount of money can save you.

Before judgement is brought seek ye the Lord. The sea coast shall be the dwelling place for the remnant of the house of Judah. The Lord will be terrible, for he will famish all the gods of the earth. Nineveh will become dry like the wilderness.

I will turn to the people a pure language, that they may call upon my name of the Lord. In that day you will no longer be ashamed for your doings. At that time I will gather all you and make your name and praise among all the people of the earth.

HAGGAI

In the second year of Darius, the king, came the word of the Lord by Haggai. The time has not come for the Lord's house to be built. You are to dwell in your roofed houses and the Lord's house is to be left unfinished. Consider your ways.

On the twenty-first day of the month the Lord then ordered his house to be built so that he could be glorified. I will shake the lands and fill this house with glory. The glory of this house will be greater than the former house. You must remain faithful unto the Lord.

ZECHARIAH

The Lord has been displeased with Darius' forefathers. do not be as your fathers and turn from your evil ways. Zechariah had a dream and saw a man on a red horse. The Lord told him what it meant. How long must the Lord have mercy on Jerusalem and the cities of Judah? I am displeased with the heathen.

I saw Joshua standing before the angel of the Lord and Satan at his side. The Lord rebuked Satan. Then the Lord told Joshua that if he would walk in his ways he would give him favor. In that day you will call every man your neighbor.

Zechariah had several other dreams about Joshua and he was shown as a symbol of the priest king. Your disobedience will be the cause of your captivity. However if Jerusalem will follow my ways I will restore her and I will pass judgement on the neighboring nations.

Awake, O sword, against my shepherd and against the man that is my fellow. Smite the shepherd and

the sheep shall be scattered and I will turn my hand against the little ones.

If the land of Egypt does not come up, they will have no rain and there shall be a plague. In that day you shall say, "HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD."

MALACHI

"You ask how I can love you," saith the Lord. "Did I not love Jacob through his iniquities? The son honors his father. O priests, why have you despise my name? You offer unclean bread on my altar. Did I pollute you? I have no pleasure in you nor will I accept your offerings. I rebuke the unfaithfulness of Israel. Behold, the judgement day is near. Who may abide the day of this coming? Who will stand when he appears? Return unto me and I will return unto you. Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed me, for this you are cursed.

"Behold, the day is coming that shall burn like an oven and all the proud will burn like stubble. But those who fear my name will be saved. Behold, I will send you Elijah before the coming of the dreadful day of the Lord.

"He shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children and the children to the fathers unless I come and smite the earth with a curse.

THE NEW TESTAMENT

THE LIFE OF JESUS

ACCORDING TO MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE

Jesus was born of Joseph, who was a direct descendant of Abraham. Joseph and Mary, Jesus' parents, were on their way to Bethlehem since a law had been passed that all the people have to be where they were born in order to pay taxes. When they arrived in Bethlehem the city was so crowded that they could not find a place to stay. An innkeeper told them that they could stay out in his barn.

Mary was pregnant at the time and while they were staying in the barn she gave birth to Jesus. At this time a large star appeared in the sky and an angel told some wise men that their Saviour had been born. Upon hearing this they immediately went to Bethlehem. They found Jesus out in the barn with his parents. They had laid him in a manger for a bed.

Rumors immediately started to go around the city about this Saviour child and it finally got to King Herod. Upon hearing of this the King asked that the child be brought to him so that he could worship him too. The people were wise to him and they fled the city with Jesus. Upon hearing this, the King became very angry and ordered that all the children under the age of two were to be killed. He was sure that this would kill the baby Jesus. Joseph and Mary fled to Egypt and were out of danger from this King.

After King Herod died Joseph took Jesus back to Israel. In Nazareth Jesus grew strong with the grace of God upon him.

When Jesus was about twelve years old, he and his family went to Jerusalem to celebrate the passover feast. After the feast was over Joseph and Mary took off for home. Jesus stayed behind without the knowledge of his parents. It wasn't until a day later that they noticed that he wasn't with them. They immediately turned around and headed back to Jerusalem.

Upon arriving in Jerusalem they found their son in the temple talking to the doctors and scholars of that time. He was talking with them in terms that they didn't know or understand. He was answering all of their questions to their great astonishment. He spoke with an air of authority.

Mary went to him and told him that they were worried about him. She asked him why he didn't come home with them. He said, "How is it that you look for me? Am I not doing my father's business?" No one understood what he had meant. Mary then took Jesus back to Nazareth with her and kept everything that he had said to herself. Jesus remained in Nazareth the rest of his boyhood.

When Jesus was about thirty years of age, a man called John the Baptist was going through the land telling the people that the kingdom of God was at hand. He travelled all over Jerusalem baptizing people to tell the people that someone greater than him was coming and that he was not worthy to wash his shoes. He would be the Messiah.

When Jesus came to John to be baptized he got a radiant glow about him, like the heavens had opened up to him and were shining down on him. A voice was heard that said, "This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased". After this Jesus went into the wilderness to be with the devil.

When the devil came to him he said, "If you are the son of God, command that these three stones be turned into bread." Jesus replied, "Man will not live by bread alone." The devil then sat Jesus up on a throne in the holy city and told him to get himself down. Jesus told him not to tempt the Lord. The devil then took him up on a high mountain and told him that he would give him all the kingdoms of earth if he would worship him. Jesus told him to get out of there and not to tempt him anymore for he would only worship his God who is in heaven.

When Jesus came out of the wilderness he heard that John had been put into prison, so he fled to Galilee telling the people there to repent for the kingdom of God was at hand. From there Jesus went down to the sea of Galilee and saw two fishermen. He told them to follow him and he would make them fishers of men. These were his first two disciples, Simon Peter and Andrew.

After he had gone a little farther he came upon James and John mending their fishing nets. He called to them and they left their work behind and followed him. The next day was the Sabbath so he went to the synagogue and taught. He taught them with authority and was not like any of the scribes.

An evil man was there and he cried out telling Jesus to leave them alone and asked him why he had come to destroy them, "I know that you are the Holy One of God." Jesus said, "Keep your peace and let the evil spirits come out of you." They were all amazed and couldn't figure out what it was that he was talking about. His fame quickly spread over all of Galilee.

When they left the synagogue, they went to Simon and Andrew's house. When they got there, they found their mother sick with a bad fever. Jesus took hold of her hand and the fever immediately left her. All of the city had gathered by the door and saw this healing. In the morning they departed. Jesus went into a private place to think. In a little while his disciples came to him. He told them that they had to go into the rest of the land and cast out the evil spirits.

While they were travelling, he and his disciples came upon a large crowd of people in Galilee. Upon seeing this large crowd, Jesus decided to sit down and talk to them. Jesus sat down upon a small hill so that the crowd could sit down around him while he talked. He said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are

they that mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are the hungry, for they shall be filled. Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God. Be happy for your reward will be great in heaven. You are the light of the world. Do good things for other so that you will be like a shining light. I have not come to destroy the law but to fulfill. I say unto you, until heaven and earth vanish, no one can escape the law, until all is fulfilled. However, if you break even one of the smallest of the laws you will have broken them all. You will not enter the kingdom of heaven. It is just as bad to be angry with your brother as it is to kill him. Forgive your brother at the altar with an offering. Then go back and make up with him. If you are ever put into prison, you will not be let out until you have completely paid for your crime.

"It is just as bad to look at a woman with a lustful eye as it is to go to bed with her, for you have already done it in your mind. If your right eye offends you, then pluck it out, so that you will not perish and be cast into hell. If you can no longer live with your wife, then give her a letter of divorce and be done with her. Do not swear at all, neither by heavens sake or by God. Nor do you swear at the land, for it is God's footstool. Either say yes or no, for anything else will be evil. If someone should hit you in the face then turn and let him hit the other side. If a man wants your coat then let him have your shirt also. If you have to go two miles to settle a problem, then go. Bless those who curse at you and do good for them that hate you. Love your enemies. Try to be perfect like your father who is in heaven. When you say your prayers, do it in private. Don't be like the hypocrites and stand on the corner so that everyone can see you, but hide yourself in a closed room for your father will see you. When you

pray don't use a lot of words but be direct and to the point. Pray in this manner: 'Our father who is in heaven, holy is your name, as your kingdom is, your wishes will be done here on earth as they are in heaven, thank you for this day and our food. Forgive us for the bills we owe, as we forgive those who owe us. Do not let us be tempted, but keep us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, you have the power and the glory forever.'

"When you go without food and fast to honor God, don't twist up your faces and act ill. Be happy, so that your father in heaven can be happy with you. Do not place your values on things here on earth, but put them in the treasures of heaven. For where your treasures are, your heart will be too.

"Your eye is the light of the body. If you see with evil thoughts, then your body will be evil, but if you look with goodness, then you will be good. No man can have two masters, for he will love the one and hate the other. Take a look at the lilies of the field, for they do not till the ground, yet they grow. Your father who is in heaven knows your every need before you do. Trust in him and he will see to your needs. Look first to the kingdom of God for your needs.

"Do not judge others, unless you can be judged. For, what you judge others be, so will you be judge. If you need anything, just ask for it in my name and you will get it. The way to destruction is like a wide gate and it will let any of you in, but the way to salvation is like a narrow gate, you have to walk a straight line to get through the gate.

"Beware of false prophets, for they will come to you like someone meek. They are like raving wolves. You will know them by what they teach. Every good man will bring forth good teachings but an evil man can only teach you what is evil.

"Some of you will come to me and try to fool me

calling me Lord, but you will not all enter the kingdom of heaven unless you do what my father which is in heaven wants you to do. Therefore, whoever hears the words that I have spoken and obeys them will be like a wise man who will build his house upon a rock. But, if you do not pay attention to what I have said then you will be lost and be a fool."

When Jesus got through telling the people all of these things, they were astonished and couldn't believe what they had heard, nor would they understand it. He spoke to them from authority and left them baffled. As Jesus was walking down from the hill, a man came to him with leprosy and asked if Jesus would heal him, Jesus reached down and touched the man and he was healed instantly, because he had believed. He told the man to go to the priest and to tell him what had happened and offer the church a gift.

On his way to Capernaum Jesus travelled past the sea of Galilee and found a great number of people there waiting for him. He stopped and told them the parable about casting your seeds upon good soil. "It is up to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to you that are without knowledge it will only be a parable. Know this, the seed is the words of God. Some went by the wayside and Satan takes them away, but, those that are sown on rocky ground are received up, but do not stay long with the person, however, those that are given to the righteous, become fruitful and benefits all who hear. You do not hide a candle under a bushel or a bed. You put it on a candlestick so that everyone can see it and benefit from the light. There is nothing hid which shall be manifested. If a man has ears to hear, let him hear

What is like the kingdom of God? It is like a grain of mustard seed which, when it grows in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the ear. But, when it grows up, it is big enough so that the birds of the air can lodge under the shadow of it.

After Jesus left the hill he went to a city called Capernaum. When he got there, a Roman centurion came to him and told him that one of his servants was very ill and asked if Jesus would come to his house and heal his servant. Jesus told him that his faith alone had already healed the servant and told him to go home. The servant was healed that very same hour.

Jesus then went to the sea of Galilee. He went aboard a ship and went over to the other side to his own city. When he got there he found a man in bed with palsy. He told him to get up, because his sins had been forgiven. He then told the man to take up his bed and walk and go into the house. When the people saw this, they were amazed at what he had done and gave praise to God that he could do such things for a man.

Jesus turned and saw a man sitting on the ground named Matthew and he told him to follow him, so Matthew got up and followed him.

The disciples of John came to him and asked him why they had to fast, but his disciples didn't. Jesus told them that you do not put new cloth on an old garment nor do you put wine into an old bottle or it might break and all of the wine would spill out. So, you fast to make yourselves new in God, so that his teachings will stay with you.

About that time, a ruler came to him and told him, that his daughter had died and asked him to come and lay a hand on her so that she would live again. Jesus told him that his faith was enough. When Jesus arrived at the ruler's house, the minstrels were making all kinds of noise. He told them to make way, for the maid was not dead. She was only asleep. They all began to laugh at him. He went in and took her hand and the maid rose from the bed.

As he left the house, two blind men came to him and asked him to give them sight. He asked them if they really thought that he could do it. They both said yes and Jesus said, "According to your faith, be

it unto you," and they received their sight. He told them, "See that no man know it."

Jesus then ordered that his twelve disciples be brought to him. He gave them the power to cast out evil spirits and to heal all types of sickness. The twelve disciples were, Simon, Peter, Andrew, James - the son of Zebedee, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James the son of Alphaeu and Thaddeus, Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Isacariot.

Jesus took his disciples to a place known as the mount of olives. There he told them of some of the signs when he was supposed to return, so that they would know when he was coming. He said, "The sun will become dark, the moon will stop shining and the stars will fall from the heavens. Then everyone will see the coming of the Son of Man. Angels will sound a trumpet and will be heard from one end of heaven to the other." However, He goes on to say, "that no man will know the hour or the day that I will return." He told them that the greatest commandment he would leave with them was that they were to love one another as he had loved them. He said that the Son of Man will come in all his glory and he will bring all the angels with him. He told them that if they would feed, give water and clothe him or the least of his servants, they would be remembered in heaven, but if they do not, they would be turned over to the devil and his angels forever.

Then one of his disciples asked him how they would know the kingdom of God and how they could find it. Jesus told them that it was not here nor was it there but, "the kingdom of God is in You."

"A day will come when you will want to see the Son of Man but, you will not see me. You will search, but I will not be there. For when the lightning strikes it lights up a part of the sky that is far away, so will it be with the Son of Man in his day."

He talked about his resurrection, "The children of this world are given in marriage but, who shall be

accounted as worthy to be able to obtain the world, and have a resurrection from the dead? They cannot die anymore, for they are equal to the angels. For God is not a God of the dead, but a God of the living."

He then told them that the passover feast was about over, and that one of them would betray him and turn him over to the Romans to be executed. The Pharisees and Scribes were enacting a plan at that very moment to have Jesus crucified, but they didn't know what charge to bring against him. They decided to charge him with doing healings on the Sabbath. Judas went to them and asked them what they would give him, if he were to arrange for Jesus to be taken captive. They told him that they would give him thirty pieces of silver for his capture.

Jesus had gone into the garden of Gethsemane to pray and Judas led the Roman soldiers to him. When the soldiers were taking him away Jesus told them that if he wanted to all he had to do was to ask his father and he would send 72,000 angels and destroy the Romans. But he would not or else the prophecy of old would not be fulfilled.

Jesus was immediately taken to Caiphas, the high priest, to answer for charges against him. Jesus refused to answer their questions and told them that one day He would be coming in the clouds, as the Son of Man. They told him he was committing blasphemy and ordered that he be taken to Pontias Pilate for sentencing to death for his crime.

Pontius Pilate said that he could find no fault in this man, but the priests insisted that he be held to answer for what he had one. Pilate knowing that this was Passover said, that he would honor their old customs and let them have one of their prisoners set free as a token gift for the Passover. Barnabas, a prisoner was brought to them. He asked the people which one of them they wanted to have set free. They all said Barnabas and said that they wanted Jesus crucified for his actions.

Pilate then said that he was going to wash his hands of this for he could find no fault in him. They gave Jesus a large cross to carry up to the hill where they were going to execute him. He stumbled and fell several times, but the soldiers kept prodding him to keep him moving. They nailed him to the cross and raised him up on it. A soldier poked Jesus in the side with a spear and another put a sponge filled with vinegar up to his mouth for a drink. About nine hours later Jesus gave out a cry and died. At that moment the earth shook and the dead in the graves arose and went into the city.

In the evening, Joseph asked that the body be given to him, so that he could bury him. His wish was granted. Joseph took Jesus to the tomb and buried him. Roman soldiers were posted at the opening to the grave so that no one could steal the body, because the priests had said that they feared that one of the disciples would steal the body and proclaim that Jesus had risen from the grave.

On the third day after his crucifixion, Mary Magdalene and some of her friends, came to his grave with spices and oil to anoint him. When they arrived at the grave they found it open. They went inside and found that Jesus was gone. They turned and walked away.

They were sad and were talking amongst themselves. Jesus appeared to them and told them, "O fool, and slow of heart to believe all the prophets have spoken. Wasn't Christ to have suffered these things?" He then mysteriously vanished from sight and was heard saying, "Peace be unto you."

He then appeared to the disciples and they were afraid. He told them not to be afraid to look at him. He had flesh like them and he spoke like them. He then said, "Have you any meat?" He was given some broiled fish and honey. He sat down and ate with them. He then told them to go to the city of Jerusalem and to teach the repentance of sins and to stay there until they were given power from above.

ST. JOHN

In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God and the word was God. Everything was made by him. There was a man sent by God and his name was John. He was sent as a witness, so that all the world would believe in him. He was in the world but the world did not know him. "But as many as received him, to them he gave power. To become the sons of God even to those who believed in his name."

John gave a witness account of him and said, "This is he of whom I spoke. He that comes after me is preferred before me, for he was before me. No man has seen God at any time, only the begotten son which is in the bosom of the father." When the priests talked to John further he said that he was not the Christ. They then said who are you? Are you the Elias? He replied no. He then said, "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, as said the prophet Isaiah." They then asked him why he was baptizing people if he was not the Christ or Elias. John told them that he was baptizing them with the water, "but there is one among you that you do not know. It is he who is coming after me of whose shoes I am not worthy to tie."

While Jesus was talking to one of his disciples he told him that, "You will see the heavens open up and the angels of God ascending upon the Son of Man."

Three days later there was a wedding in Cana and Jesus' mother was there. Jesus and his disciples were invited too. At the wedding Jesus' mother told him that they did not have any wine for the feast. Six water pots filled with water were brought to him. He then told them to pour from them. The ruler of the feast took a taste and found that the water had been changed into wine. After doing this miracle Jesus went down to Capernaum with his mother and his family and disciples.

When in Capernaum Jesus went down to the temple and found people there selling cattle and changing

money. He told them to take these things away and not to make his father's house, a house of merchandise. They all started making fun of him and wanted to know what he thought he was trying to do. He said to them that if they were to destroy the temple in three days he would raise it up. They told him that it took 46 years to build it and "you think that you can restore it in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body and not the one of stone.

There was a man who belonged to the Pharisees by the name of Nicodemus who came to Jesus one night and told him that he knew he was from God because of the wonderful things he was doing. He then asked Jesus how could he see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus was told, "Unless you are born again, you can not enter the kingdom of God." He asked Jesus how he could even enter his mother's womb again. Jesus replied, "unless you are born of the water and of the spirit you cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is flesh is flesh, and that which is spirit is spirit. Do not try to figure out what I have said to you about being born again. For the wind blows wherever it wants and you only hear the sound of it but you don't know where it came from so it is with the spirit." Nicodemus asked him how this could be. Jesus answered him by saying, "How can you be a great leader of Israel and not know these things. I say to you that you speak of what we know and tell about what we have seen but yet, we do not believe it. I have told you about earthly things and you cannot understand, how then can you understand things that are heavenly? No man ascended up to heaven, even the Son of Man which is in Heaven. As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up.

This is the condemnation, a light was sent into the world but men would rather be in the dark because what they are doing is evil. For those that do evil hate the light because his deeds would be seen.

He that is in truth, however, will come to the light so that he can be looked at and his deeds be made known."

After these things took place, Jesus went with his disciples to Judea. Staying with them and baptizing people. John the Baptist was also baptizing in Aenon because there was a lot of water there. John had not been sent to prison yet. Some of the people began to question John and his disciples about baptizing. They asked John who it was beyond the Jordan that they saw baptizing and all the men were going to him. John told them that they would receive nothing unless it is given to him from heaven. "You are a witness to the fact that I have said, 'I am not the christ but I am sent before him.'

"He will increase in popularity. He that has come from above is above all things. He that is of earth is earthly. He that comes from heaven is above all.

"Many have seen and heard his testimony but yet no man will believe what he says. He that understands his testimony will surely say that God is true. For he who God sent speaks the words of God. For God has not given him a limited amount of spirit. The father loved his son and has given all things to him."

Jesus left the land of Judeá and went back into Galilee. He came to a city of Samaria called Sychar, near the piece of land that Jacob had given to Joseph. Jacob's well was located there and Jesus was very tired so he went to the well for refreshment. A woman came to him and Jesus told her, "Give me some drink." The woman asked Jesus who he thought he was, for he was asking a Samaritan woman to give him something to drink. Jesus said, "If you know who it was that was asking you and knew the gift of God, you wouldn't have asked me that and I would have given you the living water."

The woman said to him that he didn't even have anything in which to get him some water. "Are you

greater than our father, Jacob, who gave us this well?" Jesus said, "Whoever drinks from this well will thirst again, whoever drinks of the water I give him will never thirst again. For the water of my well will spring you into everlasting life."

The woman asked Jesus to give her some of this water. Jesus told her to go and get her husband and then to return. The woman told him that she didn't have a husband. Jesus replied, "It is well of you to tell me that you have no husband for you have already had five husbands and the one you are with now is not your husband." The woman said, "I recognize you as truly a prophet." Jesus said, "Woman believe me that the hour is coming when neither in this mountain or in Jerusalem will you worship thy father. You do not know what you worship. We know what we worship. For salvation is the Jews. The hour is here when the true worshippers shall worship the father in spirit and in truth for the father wants them to worship him. God is a Spirit. They that worship him must worship him in spirit and truth."

The woman said that when the hour is come the messiah will come which is called the church and tell them of these things. Jesus replied, "I am He."

About that time the disciples came back and were surprised to see him talking with a woman. The woman left her water pot and went into the city. She told the men about this man at the well. The disciples were trying to get Jesus to eat and Jesus told them that he had meat to eat that they did not know of. "My meat is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work." Many of the Samaritans believed him for he had told the woman of everything she had done.

There was a feast of the Jews and Jesus went to Jerusalem. Over by the sheep market was a pool called Bethesda, Meaning having five porches. In the pool was a large group of people that were blind and

ailing, waiting for the moving of the waters. For a certain time of the year an angel would stir up the waters and the first to be there would be healed from whatever disease he had. A man of about 38 years of age was there. Jesus saw him. The man told him that he had been there for a long time. Jesus asked him why he had not been healed. The man told him that he could not walk and that no one would help him. That they would step over him and get there before him. Jesus told him to take up his bed and walk. Immediately the man was healed and he took up his bed and walked. This was done on the Sabbath. The Jews were angry with the man and told him that it was against the law for him to carry his bed on the Sabbath. He told them that the one who had healed him told him to do so. They asked him who it was that told him these things.

Awhile later Jesus went into the temple and found the man he had seen earlier by the pool. Jesus said to him, "You have been healed, sin no more unless something worse will happen to you." The man left and told the Jews about what Jesus had done. The Jews wanted to persecute Jesus for doing these things on the Sabbath.

Jesus answered them, "My father worked here too so I work also." For this the Jews sought to kill him, for he had broken the Sabbath. Jesus answered them, "The son can do nothing of himself except for what he seeth the father do. For the father loved the son and showed him many things. For the Father judges no man but has given judgement to the son.

"All men would honor the son even as they honor the father. He that heareth my words and believes in them shall have everlasting life and shall not be sent into eternal condemnation but is passed from death into life. For as the Father has life in him, so does the son.

"Do not worry about what I have said for the hour

is coming when all the dead in the graves will hear my voice. Those that have done good will go into the resurrection of life. I by myself can do nothing, what I hear I judge. I do not seek my own will but the will of the Father. If I bear witness to myself my witness is not true.

"You sent John and he bore witness unto the truth. I receive testimony from no man but these things I tell you so that you might be saved. He was a burning and shining light. For one year you were willing to rejoice unto him. But I have greater witness than that of John, for the works of the Father have been given to me to finish.

"Look into the scriptures and you will think that you have life but yet, you will not come to me so that you may have everlasting life. I have come in my father's name and yet you will not accept me. How can you believe and receive honor from another and seek not the honor that comes from God only. If you had believed Moses you would have believed me. For he wrote about me. If you do not believe his writings then you will not believe in me."

After this Jesus went over to the sea of Galilee and a great number of people were there. Jesus went up to the mountain with his disciples. It was time for the Passover feast and Jesus saw this large group of people and asked his disciples to get some food. One of the disciples told him that there was a small boy there with five loaves of bread and two small fishes.

Jesus told the men to sit down and about five thousand of them sat down in the field around him. After saying grace Jesus took the loaves of bread and distributed them to the disciples. The disciples gave to those who were sitting around. He did likewise with the fish. When they were full Jesus told them to gather up all of the crumbs so that nothing would be wasted. The leftovers filled twelve baskets of bread crumbs. Sometime later there was another

great feast and Jesus sent his friends ahead. After his friends had gone to the feast he went also, secretly. The Jews were looking for him and kept asking for him. Jesus went into the temple and started telling them of things that they didn't understand. "My doctrine is not that of mine but of him who sent me. Didn't Moses give you the law? Why then do you want to kill me?" The people answered, "You are a Devil." Jesus then told them, "Judge not according to the appearance but by righteous judgement."

One of them said, "Is this not the one who we seek to kill? Is this indeed the very christ? How is it that we know where this man came from the seed of David. When the real Christ comes no man will know where he comes from. Have any of the rulers or the Pharisees believed in him? Art thou also out of Galilee? Search and look out of Galilee comes no prophet."

Jesus then went to the mount of olives. Early in the morning he came back to the temple and all the people came to him. He said, "If you continue in my work then you are truly my disciples. You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." They told him that they were of Abraham's seed and were already free, what did he mean? "Whosoever commits sin is the servant of sin. The servant does not stay long but the Son stays forever. I know that you are from Abraham but yet you seek to kill me because my words do not stay with you. I have told you about my Father but you do not understand.

"If God were your father then you would love me because I am from God not for myself. Why can't you understand me. He that is from God heareth God's word but since you are not of God you do not understand. Ye are of your father the Devil and the lusts of your father you will do. He was a murderer from the beginning and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaks of his own. For he is a liar and the father of it."

They replied, "Now we know that you are of the devil. Abraham is dead and yet you say if we keep your sayings we shall never die. Are you greater than Abraham, our Father, which is dead?"

"If I honor myself, my honor means nothing. It is my Father that honors me of whom you say that he is your God." They asked him how this could be since he wasn't even fifty years old and Abraham had been dead longer than that. "Before Abraham was, I was." They picked up stones to throw at him but he left the temple into the crowd.

As Jesus passed by he saw a man who had been blind since birth and he told him to go and wash his face in the pool of Siloam. The man did and was immediately given his sight. This was done on the Sabbath. The Pharisees said that this is not a man of God for he does not keep the Sabbath. The man claimed that he was a prophet. But the Jews did not believe it. They went to the parents of this man who had been blind and asked if this was their son. They told them that it was. The parents said that they did not know who that was that gave sight to their son because they didn't want to say that he was the Christ and be put out of the Synagogue.

The Pharisees told the man to give praise to God for this other man was a sinner. The man said that he did not know if he was a sinner or not but he was blind and now he could see. Since the world began it has never before been heard that a blind man was given sight by any man. If this man were not of God he could do nothing. They told him that he was born of sin and cast him out of the synagogue.

Jesus said, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" The man said, "Who is the Lord that I might believe in him?" Jesus said, "You have seen him and talked with him. If you were blind you should have no sin, but now you see therefore your sins remain with you."

This statement caused a great division between the Jews. A lot of them were saying that this was a statue

ment from the devil. Can the devil open the eyes of the blind? Many came to him and asked him why he was causing so many doubts.

"I have told you but you do not understand. I have given you eternal life yet you want to pluck them from me. My Father, who is greater than all, gave them to me. I and my Father are one." The Jews picked up some stones and started to stone him. Jesus said to them, "I have shown you many good works and yet you want to stone me."

They told him that they were not stoning him for the good works but for the blasphemy that he had said. "If you are who you say you are then turn yourself in to God." Jesus said, "Is it not written in your books that Ye are Gods? The scripture can not be broken. I said that I am the Son of God. If I do not do the works of my Father then do not believe in me. If I do and yet you do not believe me, then believe the works I do so you will know and believe for the Father is in me and I in the Father." They again tried to get him but he got away. He went to the Jordan where John the Baptist was first baptizing and there he lived.

In the town of Bethany there was a man called Lazarus who was very sick and his sisters, Mary and Martha, sent for Jesus. When the messengers told Jesus of Lazarus' illness, he said, this sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified. After two days Jesus went to Bethney and found Lazarus had been dead for four days. When the sisters saw him they said, Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. They wept and Jesus wept also.

Many people had come to comfort the sisters over the loss of their brother. Mary told Jesus that if he had come earlier Lazarus would not have died. Jesus said, "Thy brother shall rise again. I am the life and the ressurection, though he is dead yet he shall live if he believed in me. Do you believe this?" The sisters said that they did believe in him. Jesus then

asked where they had laid Lazarus.

When they got there Jesus told them to roll away the stone. "Today you shall see the glory of God." Jesus then said, "Lazarus, come forth." Lazarus came out of the grave wrapped in graveclothes and with a napkin around his face. Jesus told them to loose him and let him go.

From that day forward the Parisees took counsel to put Jesus to death. Jesus no longer walked freely among the Jews but stayed in the wilderness near a ci called Ephraim and continued to stay there with his disciples. The Pharisees told that if anyone knew where he was that they were to speak so that he could be found.

Six days before Passover Jesus went to Bethany and had dinner with Martha, Mary, and Lazarus. Mary took some ointment and put it on Jesus' feet. She then wiped them clean with her hair. Judas said why didn' she sell the ointment and give it to the poor, but Jesus told them that they would always have the poor with them but he would soon be gone and to leave her alone.

A lot of people had heard that Jesus was in town and they came not only to see Jesus but also to see Lazarus who Jesus had risen from the dead. The pries wanted to put Lazarus to death because a lot of Jews had gone a stray because he was living after once beif declared dead.

The following day Jesus went to Jerusalem and many people lined the street with palm leaves for him to travel on. The Pharisees said look at how the world is going crazy after him. Jesus said, "The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. If you love your life you will loose it, but if you hate your life you will live into eternity. Father, glorify thy name." A voice was heard from heaven saying, "I have glorified it and I will glorify it again."

Jesus said that this voice did not come "for my sake but for your sakes. Now is the judgement of this world. Now shall the prince of this world be cast out. I will be lifted up from the earth." He knew that he was going to die. The people said that Christ would live forever "so what do you mean that the Son of Man must die. Who is this Son of Man?"

"Do not be troubled, for as you believe in God, believe in me also. In my Father's house are many mansions and I go there to prepare a place for you. I will come again so that where I am you may be also." Thomas asked him where he was going. "I am the way, the truth and the life and no man comes to the Father but by me. If you have known me you have known the Father also. At that day ye shall know I will pray that the Father give you a comforter. He will abide with you forever. The comforter which is the Holy Ghost, who the Father will send in my name, shall teach you all things. Hereafter I will not speak with you for the prince of the world cometh and hath nothing in me. When the comforter comes he will testify of me and you will be a witness because you have been with me from the start. When the comforter comes he will reprove the world of sin and of righteousness and of judgement. I have many things to tell you yet but you cannot bear them now. When the spirit of truth is come he will guide you unto all truth. In the world you will have many troubles but be of good cheer, for I have overcome the world."

ACTS

Jesus said, "Wait for the promise of the Father, you shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost in a few days. It is not for you to know the time or the seasons."

A few days later the disciples received the Holy Ghost and spoke in different languages that they did not understand. Then they gladly received his

word and fear came upon every living soul. Peter kept warning the Jews of their transgressions and told them to repent. Charges of blasphemy were put against Peter and John. They were put into prison. Peter said, "There is salvation in no other, for there is no other name under heaven given to man whereby we must be saved." Peter told the people to unite in prayer. Then Peter said, "Of truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons but in every nation he that fears him and works in righteousness is accepted with him."

King Herod stretched forth his hand to cause trouble for the church and killed James, the brother of John, with his sword. Because this pleased the Jews he proceeded to take Peter also. Peter was arrested and put into prison. An angel appeared to Peter and raised him up quickly and his chains fell off.

Peter gave praise to God for delivering him out of the hands of Herod. Herod was dressed in his finest robe and proclaimed to the people in a speech that he was God and immediately an angel killed him for not giving praise to God. He was eaten by the worms. The word of God grew and multiplied. "Believe in the word of Christ and you will be saved." The words of the Lord are, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Jesus said to Paul, "Rise and stand on thy feet for I have appeared for this purpose, to make thee a minister and witness of these things which thou has seen and of those things in which I will show you. To open their eyes and to turn them from darkness to light and from the power of Satan unto God that they may receive the inheritance of them which are sanctified by faith.

"Be it known therefore that the salvation of God will be sent unto the Gentiles and they will hear it."

Paul says, "Jesus Christ was made of the flesh and the seed of David according to the flesh. He declared to be the Son of God with power according to the spirit of Holiness." Who changed the truth of God into a lie and worshipped the creature more than the creator who is blessed forever?

"For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and God-head, so that they are without excuse."

Man has come to not want to retain God in their knowledge but is filled with unrighteousness, murder, envy, fornication and backbiters, and haters of God and disobedient to parents. However we are not to judge others unless we condemn ourselves. For there is not respect of persons with God. But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested being witnessed by the law. Even the righteousness of God which is by faith unto all and upon all them that believe, for there is no difference. For all of them have sinned and come short of the glory of God. The promise that Abraham should be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

Therefore, being justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord and by who also we have access by faith not this grace wherein we stand and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

What shall we say then? Shall we continue to sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we that are dead to sin, live any longer? Know ye not that so many of us were baptized in to Jesus Christ were baptized into death? Therefore, we are buried with him by baptism into death. And if children, then heirs, heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we

may be also glorified together.

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know what the whole creation groaned in pain until now.

And we know that all things work together for good, to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose. For whom He did foreknow he also did predestine to be conformed to the image of his son that he might be the first born among many brethren.

Moreover, whom he did predestine he also called and whom he called he also justified and whom he justified, he also glorified. What shall we then say to these things. If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own son but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay anything to the charge of Gods elect? It is God that justifieth. Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress or persecution or famines or nakedness or peril or sword? As it is written, for thy sake we are killed all the day long: we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained by God.

I CORINTHIANS

Paul thanks God for his gift of grace to you by Christ Jesus and your enrichment in speech and knowledge as the testimony of Christ is established in you, enriching your lives on your lips and in your hearts, now while waiting for his appearance.

Chloe has told me of divisions among you. One says he follows Paul, one follows Apollos, one Cephas and some follow only Christ. Were you not baptized in the name of Christ? I was sent to preach and not to baptize. Not with words of worldly wisdom. Preaching the cross is folly to those involved on their way to ruin. My preaching was not in enticing words but in demonstration of the Spirit and Power that your faith should be built not on human wisdom but upon the power of God.

Yet we impart wisdom to the mature, not of this age which shall pass away but a secret wisdom planned before this world which none of the rulers of this age knew. As it is written, "Eye hath not seen nor ear heard neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them to us by his spirit. For the spirit searcheth all things. Yea the things of God, who can understand God's thoughts but the spirit of God. But we now receive the spirit of God; and the things of God are spiritually discerned and the Holy Ghost teaches us. Who knows the mind of the Lord? But we have the mind of Christ.

And I, my brethren, could not talk to you as spiritual people but as babes in Christ. I fed you milk not solid food; for you were not ready for meat and still are not, you are still on the human level.

I as master builder have laid the foundation and others build thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereon.

Don't you know that you are the temple of God and

that God's spirit lives in you? God will destroy anyone who defiles his temple, for his temple is holy and you are his temple.

Worldly wisdom is folly and vain with God. Do not boast in men. Everything is yours, the world, life, death, the present and the future. You are Christ's and Christ belongs to God.

We, as stewards of the mysteries of God, should be faithful. He will bring the light to the things hidden in darkness and the purpose of the heart. Every man will give God his share of praise. What have you that you did not receive?

The kingdom of God is not word but in power. Do you want me to come to you with a rod or in love and meekness? Root out the evildoer in your community, the church. Do you not know the saints will judge the world? And we shall judge the angels.

Practice love and forgiveness rather than law against your brothers. The kingdom of God will never belong to the wicked. Food for the stomach will come to an end. The body is not meant for immortality, but for the Lord. God raised the Lord and will raise us. Your bodies are members of Christ. Your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you and of God and you are not your own. The keeping of God's commandments are important.

If you are a slave and can become free take the opportunity. You are redeemed at a great cost; so do not become slaves of men.

If one has knowledge there is much more to learn but if he has love he opens his whole life to the spirit of God. Our ancestors were guided by the cloud and crossed the sea dry-shod, so to speak, being baptized into Moses by these experiences. They all ate and drank of the supernatural but most of them were not accepted by God because of their desires of evil things. They feasted and played and some committed fornication. Many died and were destroyed by serpents. Some grumbled and worshipped

false gods. You are not to do these things. The things that happened to them are symbolic and are written for our benefit as a warning.

If anyone thinks he stands let him take heed lest he fall. Your temptations are those common to man. God will not let you be tempted above what you can bear, he will provide a way of escape. Follow my example as I follow Christ's. The head of the man is Christ. The head of the woman is her husband and the head of Christ is God.

Men have different gifts by the same spirit. God works through different men in different ways. They are inspired for the common good.

One speaks the word of wisdom, another knowledge, another faith, or healing, miracles, prophecy, discerning spirits, or many kinds of tongues. All by the same spirit God, dividing every man. As the body has many members so is Christ, for by one spirit are we all baptized into one body.

God has appointed some as messengers, some preachers, prophets, and some teachers. Some are for healing, helpers or organizers, and some speak with tongues. All do not practice each gift. They are distributed by God for harmony as members in the human body. Earnestly desire the higher gifts.

If I have prophetic powers and understand all the mysteries and knowledge and have all faith and can move mountains, without love I am nothing. If I give away everything and even give my body to burn without love I am nothing. Love is patient, kind, not jealous or boastful, arrogant or rude. Love bears belief and hopes and endures all things.

For we know in part and we prophecy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away with. When I was a child I spoke as a child, I understood as a child. When I became a man I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass darkly but then face to face, now I know in part but then shall

I know even as also I am known.

Put love first, and desire spiritual gifts; and above all prophecy. I should speak to you by revelation, knowledge, prophecy or doctrine. Let him who speaks in tongues be silent and speak to himself and to God.

The spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets God is author of peace not confusion. I preached to you the gospel which brings you salvation, if you hold it fast your conversation will not be in vain.

If Christ is not raised from the dead and there is no resurrection as we have preached to you, then you are still in your sins and our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. Then those who are asleep have perished. If in this life only we have hope. By man came death and by man came the resurrection. As in Adam all die so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Then comes the end. He delivers the kingdom to God the father. Christ reigns until every enemy is conquered. The last enemy is death. Everything will be subject to God and also the Son whom God gave power over all things and God will be everything to everyone. Why would people be baptized for the dead if the dead are not raised?

Some may ask, "How are the dead raised?" A seed dies when it is germinated and brought forth according to God's laws. Not all flesh is alike. There are men, animals, and birds. There are bodies celestial and bodies terrestrial. The glory or splendor and birth of each is different as are the sun, moon, and stars in brightness.

The dead are raised incorruptable after being sown in corruption. It is sown in dishonor and weakness and is raised in splendor and power. It is sown a natural body and raised a spiritual body.

The first man, Adam, became a living soul. The

first man was from the earth and the second from heaven and was the Lord himself. As we have born the image of the earthly. So shall we bear the image of the heavenly.

Behold, I show you a mystery. We shall not all sleep. We shall all be changed in a moment like the twinkling of an eye at the last trumpet for the trumpeted shall sound; and the dead shall be raised incorruptable and we shall be changed.

For this corruption must put on incorruption and this mortal must put on immortality. After this death is swallowed up in victory.

II CORINTHIANS

We have acted with sincerity of conscience by God's grace. Thanks to God who in Christ lead us to triumph. We are the fragrance of those being saved, with life and of those who are perishing with doom. Because of our spreading the knowledge of Christ we are commissioned by God to speak of Christ. Our ability comes from God. We are the ministers of the New Testament, not in letter, but in spirit. The letter kills, but the spirit gives life. Only through Christ is the veil upon the hearts taken away by turning to the Lord. The Lord is that spirit. Where the spirit of the Lord is there is freedom.

If our gospel is veiled only to the perishing, the god of this world has blinded them from the light of the gospel of Christ who is the likeness of God. We can now enlighten men with the knowledge of the glory of God as we see it in the face of Christ.

To face death means that you know more of life. We believe we know that he who raised the Lord from death will also raise us. We shall all stand together before him. For we know that if our earthly house is destroyed we have a permanent house in

heaven, made not by man, but by God. We want our life to be absorbed into the life that is eternal.

We do not regard men from a human point of view as we no longer view Christ so. If a man be in Christ he is a new creature. Old things are gone and all things have become new. All things are of God who reconciled us to himself doing this work through Christ. God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not counting their sins against him. Christ was innocent yet for our sake, God made him one with the sinfulness of man so that in him we might be made one with the goodness of God.

We say as workers together with him, "behold now is the time for salvation." We speak the truth as known and yet well known not far from death but still alive. The temple of God is what we are.

God said, "I will live in them and move among them and be their God and they shall be by my people. Come out from among them and be ye separate though nothing unclean, then I will welcome you and be a father to you and you shall be sons and daughters."

There are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

Examine and test yourselves. Do you not know that Christ is in you?

GALATIANS

I, Paul, marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel. Which is not another, but there be some that trouble you and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

Knowing that man is not justified by the works of the law but by earth, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith

of Christ and not by the works of the law for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. But if while we seek to be justified by Christ we ourselves are found to be sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin?

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, and long suffering and faith. They that are Christs have crucified the flesh with affections. If we live in the spirit, let us also walk in the spirit.

Let every man prove his own work and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone and not another. For every man shall bear his own burden. Be not deceived for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

EPHESIANS

Blessed by the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.

Having predestined us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.

To praise the glory of his grace where in him hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.

Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence. Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself.

That in the dispensation of the fullness of time, he might gather together in one all things in Christ both which are in heaven and which are on earth, even in him.

In whom also have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will that we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise. Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession unto the praise of his glory.

Where in time past ye walked according to the course of this world according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit now works in the children of disobedience.

Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind and were by nature the children of wrath.

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love where with he loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved). And hath raised us up together and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his kindness toward us through Christ. How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery whereby ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ. Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by spirit.

That the Gentiles should be fellow heirs and the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel. Whereof I was made a minister according to the fit of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.

Unto me whom are less than the least of saints is this grace given that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ.

To the intent that the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God. According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him. Wherefore I desire that ye faint not at my tribulations for you, which is your glory. For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of the Lord Jesus Christ. Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named. That he would grant you according to the riches of his glory to be strengthened with might by his spirit in the inner man.

That Christ will dwell in your hearts by faith, that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth and length and depth and height. And to know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.

Endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace, even as ye are called in hope of your calling. One God and One Faith and One Baptism. One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in all of you. But who every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up for above all heavens, that he might fill all things.

And he gave some apostles and some prophets and some evangelists and some pastors and some teachers

for the perfecting of the Saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.

Till we all come in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

That we henceforth be no more children tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the slight of men and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive.

But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ.

PHILIPPIANS

Paul and Timothy are giving thanks to God for his remembrance of them and they pray that the people of Philippi's love may abound yet more knowledge and in all judgement. They may approve things that are excellent. That they may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ.

Let nothing be done in vain glory. Let his mind be in you which was also in Christ, who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God. Wherefore, my beloved, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do his good pleasure. Hold forth to the word of life, that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain.

Be found in him not having mine own righteousness which is of the law but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by Faith.

COLOSSIANS

That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being faithful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness.

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us men to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light. Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us unto the kingdom of his dear Son.

In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins. Who is the image of the invisible God, the first born of every creature. For by him were all things created that are in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created by him and for him. He is before all things and by him all things consist.

Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations but now is made manifest to his saints. To whom God would make known what is the riches of the Glory of this mystery among Gentiles, which is Christ in you the hope of glory.

Whom we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.

That their hearts might be comforted being knit together in love and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God and of the Father and of Christ, in whom are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words, for though I be absent from you in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world and not after Christ. For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the God-head bodily.

And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power. In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ.

Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

And you being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him having forgiven you of all your trespasses.

Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind.

And not holding the head from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.

Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world ye are subject to ordinances. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life, shall appear then shall ye also appear with him in glory. Mortify therefore your member which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence and covetousness, which is idolatry. For which things sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience.

Put on therefore as the elect of God and beloved, bowels of mercies kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering. Forebearing one another and

forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel with you, even as Christ forgave you so also do ye.

And above all things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. Let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to that which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

And whatever ye do in word or deed do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Pray also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds. Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

I THESSALONIANS

Our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Ghost and in such assurance as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. For they themselves who of us what manner of entering in we had unto you and how you turned to God to wait for his Son from Heaven. For yourselves, brethren, know our entrance into you that it was not in vain but as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak not as pleasing men, but God.

For what is our hope or joy or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of your Lord Jesus Christ at his coming? For ye are our glory and joy. For God that not called us unto uncleanness but unto holiness. He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man but God.

This we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that

we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not precede them which are asleep. The dead in Christ shall rise first, then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air. Comfort one another with these words. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

Ye are the children of the light, we are not of the night or darkness. Therefore, let us not sleep as do others but let us watch and keep sober. For God has not appointed us to wrath but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ. Prove all things, hold fast to that which is good.

II THESSALONIANS

We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is met because your faith groweth exceedingly. To you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven. Now we beseech you by the coming of our Lord Christ and by gathering together unto him that ye be not shaken or troubled for the day of Christ is at hand.

Let no man deceive you for that day shall come, except there be a falling away first and that man of sin be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming. Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusions that they should believe a lie, yet count him not as an enemy but warn him as a brother. The Lord is faithful and shall strengthen yo

I TIMOTHY

Do not give heed in fables and endless genealogies

which minister questions rather than godly edifying which is in faith. Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart and of good conscience of of faith unfeigned. We know that the law is good if men use it lawfully. Christ counted me faithful, and put me into the ministry.

Paul says that we should give prayer and thanks for all that is godly and good, I speak the truth in Christ and not a lie and am a teacher of the Gentiles.

Now the Spirit speaketh that in latter times some shall depart from faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils; speaking lies, forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every living creature of God is good and nothing to be refused.

Neglect not the spirit that is in you, which was given thee by prophecy. Meditate upon these things, that they profiting may appear to all.

Treat the elder men with respect as you would your father and the elder women as your mother. Honor the widows with respect. But she that liveth in pleasure is already dead though she is alive.

Let the elders that rule well be accounted worthy of double honor especially they who labor in the word and doctrine. I charge thee by God and the Lord Christ and the elect angels that thou observe these things, without preferring one over another. Lay hands on no man, keep thyself pure. But thou, O man of God, flee these things and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, where thou art also called and have professed.

II TIMOTHY

I thank God that I could serve my forefathers with a clear conscience that without ceasing I have remem-

berance of thee in my prayers night and day. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power and love and of sound mind. Be not therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord.

Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou has heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ and the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. Consider what I say and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.

It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him, if we suffer, we shall reign with him. Study to show thyself approved unto God rightly dividing the word of truth. Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already and overthrow the faith of some.

The Lord knoweth them that are his. Let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

Know also that in the last days, perilous times shall come. From a child thou hast known the scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ. Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. God will judge the quick and the dead at his coming and his kingdom.

Henceforth, there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord the righteous judge, shall give me at that day and not to me only, but to all of them also at his appearing. The Lord shall deliver me from every evil work and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom.

TITUS

This book was written so Paul's son, Titus, might understand his common beliefs and in hope of eternal life which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began.

For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers whose mouths must be stopped, teaching things they shouldn't for filthy Lucre's sake. One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said the Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies. This witness is true. Wherefore, rebuke them sharply that they may be sound in faith not giving heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.

Unto the pure all things are pure. But unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure but even themselves and minds are defiled. Teach the things that become sound doctrine. That men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity and patience. In all things show thyself a pattern of good works, in doctrine showing uncorruptness, gravity and sincerity. Use sound speech that cannot be condemned.

Look for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Christ, which he shed on us by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

PHILEMON

I Paul, a prisoner of Christ, thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers. Hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints, that the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging to every good thing which is in you, in Christ.

Wherefore, though I might be bold in

Christ to rejoin thee that which is convenient. Yet for love's sake I rather beseech thee, being such a one as Paul, the aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ.

Which in time past was to thee unprofitable but now profitable to thee and to me. For perhaps he therefore departed for a season that thou should receive him forever. Not now as a servant but above a servant, a brother beloved, specially to me but how much more unto thee, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

If thou count me therefore a partner, receive him as myself. If he hath wronged thee, put that on my account.

Yea, brother, let me have joy in thee in the Lord, refresh my bowels in the Lord. May the grace of our Lord Christ be with your spirit.

HEBREWS

God, who at sundry times and in diverse manners, spoke in time past unto the fathers by the prophets. Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds.

Who being the brightness of his glory and the express image of his person and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged all our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.

Being made so much better than the angels as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

Forasmuch as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part in the same, that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the Devil and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For verily he took not

on him the nature of angels but he took on him the seed of Abraham.

For unto us was the gospel preached as well as unto them. But the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that hear it. For if Jesus had given them rest then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.

Therefore, leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance. From dead works and of faith toward God. Of the doctrine of baptism and laying on of hands and of resurrection of the dead and of eternal judgement. And this will we do, if God permits.

Wherein God, willing more abundantly to show unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel confirmed it by an oath.

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which do so easily beset us and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking to Christ the author and finisher of faith.

JAMES

If you lack wisdom ask it of God but ask it in faith. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God, for God cannot be tempted with evil neither can he tempt any man. But every man is tempted when he is drawn away from his own lust and

enticed.

Every good gift and every perfect gift cometh down from above and cometh down from the Father of lights.

Do not be partial with anyone or judge them for what they do or have done. It is enough for you to follow the commandments yourself. What does it profit my brethren, though a man say he has faith and have not works? Can faith save him? Faith without works is dead.

The tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. So is the tongue among your members that it defileth the whole body and setteth on fire the course of nature and it is set on fire by hell. The tongue can no man tame, it is unruly, evil, full of deadly poison. One minute we bless God the next we curse man who was created after his image.

Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Be ye also patient, establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh. The prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up and if he has sinned, he will be forgiven.

Let him know that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his ways shall save a soul from death and shall hide a multitude of sins.

I PETER

Wherefore gird up your loins if your mind be sober and hope to end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Be as obedient children not following your former lusts. Be holy in all manner of conversation.

Lay aside all malice and all guile and hypocrisies and evil speakings. As newborn babes desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby. For ye were as sheep going astray and are now returned to the shepherd of your soul.

Be of one mind, having compassion for one another, be courteous. Do not render evil for evil but give a blessing instead.

Above all things, have fervent charity among yourselves, for charity will cover a multitude of sins.

If any man speak let him speak as the oracles of God. If any man minister let him do so with the ability which God giveth, that God in all things may be glorified through Christ, to whom be praise and dominion.

If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye, for the spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part he is evil spoken of but on your part he is glorified.

II PETER

Whereby are given unto us exceedingly great and precious gifts and promises. That by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped corruption that is in the world through lust.

And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue and to virtue add knowledge and to knowledge temperance and to temperance patience and to patience godliness and to godliness brotherly kindness and to brotherly kindness charity.

For if these things be in you and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I JOHN

This is the message which we have heard, that God is light and in him is no darkness. If we walk in darkness, we lie and do not tell the truth. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If you say that you love your brother, you are in the truth and in the light but if you claim to be in

the light but hate your brother then you are in darkness. Little children, it is the last time and as ye have heard that anti-christ shall come, even now are there many anti-christs, whereby we know that it is the last time. Little children, abide in him that when he shall appear we may have confidence and not be ashamed before him at his coming.

Whosoever is born of God does not commit sin, for his seed remains in him and he cannot sin, for he is born of God. In the children of God are manifest and the children of the devil. Who ever does not righteousness is not of God. For this is the message you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. If you hate your brother then you are a murderer.

Beloved, believe not every spirit but try the spirits whether they are of God because many false prophets have gone into the world.

He that loves not knows not God, for God is love. No man hath seen God at any time. For there are three that bear witness and record in heaven, the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost. These three are one.

II JOHN

I rejoice greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father. For many deceivers are entered into the world, this is an anti-christ. Look to yourselves, that we lose not these things which we have wrought but that we receive a full reward.

If there come any unto you and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, nor to bid him God speed. For he that biddeth him God speed is a partaker of his evil deeds.

III JOHN

Beloved, thou doest faithfully, whatsoever thou doest to the brethren and to strangers. We therefore ought to receive such that we might be fellow helpers to the truth.

Beloved, follow not that which is evil but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God, he that doeth evil has not seen God.

JUDE

The angels, which kept not their first estate but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgement of the great day.

Likewise also those filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despoise dominion and speak evil indignities. Yet Michael, the archangel, when contending with the devil, disputed about the body of Moses. But those speak evil of those things which they know not but what they know naturally as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.

But, beloved, remember ye the words which are spoken by the apostle. How that they told you there would be mockers in the last time who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. These are those who separate themselves and have not the spirit. Keep yourselves in the Love of God.

REVELATION

John wrote the letter of revelation to the seven churches in Asia. He writes Jesus as saying: "I am alpha and omega, the beginning and the ending. I am he that liveth and was dead and I live forevermore. I have the keys of hell and of death. I know thy works and tribulations and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews but are not but are the

synagogue of Satan.

The devil will cast some of you into prison, be thou faithful unto death and I will give you a crown of life. I know thy works and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is. I will come quickly and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. But, I say unto you, as many as have not this doctrine and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak. I will put upon you no other burden. He that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of God and he shall go no more out and I will write upon him the name of my God and I will write upon him the name of my new name. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame and am set down with my Father in his throne. He that has an ear let him hear what the Spirit has said to the churches."

John had a vision of heaven and he saw pillars of fire and beasts with wings and full of eyes, some were flying like an eagle. There were twenty-four people sitting on thrones and they gave praise to the one who sat in the middle of them. I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book full of writing with seven seals on it. An angel asked who can open this book and no one could except for a lamb with seven horns and seven eyes. Everyone gave praise to the lamb and when he opened the seals it thundered. All sorts of things were shone to me as each seal was opened. When he opened the seventh seal there was silence in heaven for one half hour, then seven angels appeared to him with trumpets. As each trumpet was blown terrible things began happening on earth. Just as I was about to write the things I saw of the seventh angel, another angel appeared and told me not to write but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished as he hath declared to his servants, the prophets.

He had a little book in his hand and he told me

to eat the book and that I must prophecy to many nations. I was then given a reed like rod and told to measure the temple of God and the altar and those that worshipped there. I was not to measure the court for it would be given to the Gentiles. If any man hurt them he must be killed. These have the power to shut heaven.

The temple of God was opened up in heaven and there was an Ark of his testament and there was lightning and thunder and great hail. I looked and a lamb stood on mount Zion and he had 144,000 people with the name of God on their foreheads. In their mouths was found no profanity, for they were without fault before the throne of God.

I looked again and behold, a white cloud and upon the cloud one sat like the Son of Man wearing a golden crown and in his hand a sharp sickle. An angel told him that it was time to harvest and to reap and so he reached down and reaped the earth.

I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go you ways and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth." All sorts of plagues were poured upon the earth.

I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of the Devils and working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole earth, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God almighty. The seventh angel poured out his vial and said, "It is done."

I saw an angel come down from heaven having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain with him. He laid hold of the Devil and Satan and bound him one thousand years. He was cast down into the bottomless pit and sealed so he could deceive the nations no more. He was to remain there for one thousand years and then to be turned loose for one season. The rest of the dead lived not again until

the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

I saw a great white throne and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. I saw the dead stand before God, the books were opened up and another book which is the Book of Life and the dead were judged according to their works as recorded in the book. The sea gave up her dead, death and hell delivered up the dead that were in them. Death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found in the Book of Life was also cast into the lake of fire.

I saw a new heaven and new earth for the first heaven and earth passed away and there was no more sea. I saw the holy city, the New jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven.

Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men and he will dwell with them and they shall be his people. God will wipe away all tears from their eyes and there shall be no more pain, death, sorrow, or crying, neither shall there be any anguish for all the former have passed away. He that sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new."

**THE TESTAMENT
OF
TODAY**

INTRODUCTION

I would like to tell you who I am and why I've written the Testament of Today. My name is Kirby J. Hensley and I was born in the mountains of North Carolina in 1911. As far back as I can remember I have had a desire to preach or teach. I can neither read nor write, but by having different people read to me, I started studying the Bible at a very early age.

I first joined the Baptist Church and became an ordained minister. I studied all the religious ideals I ever heard about, but none of them satisfied me. I have always felt that freedom was one of man's greatest desires, and still do. So in 1962 I organized and incorporated the Universal Life Church, and it has grown into one of the largest organizations in the world. Its basic doctrine is that we only believe in that which is right, and every person has the right to interpret what is right for themselves. We will ordain anyone as a minister, without question of faith, without price, and for life. We take this scripture from St. John's, fifteenth chapter, sixteenth verse, "ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you."

After studying the Bible for some thirty years, I memorized the Old Testament in story form and the New Testament word for word. Then I got disgusted with the Bible and wanted to burn every last one of them. For about fifteen years I tried to forget the Bible. I tried all types of Metaphysical religions, but they did not satisfy me either.

One day when I was at the lumber yard a black man came in, bought some lumber and went and built himself a white house. I had bought lumber in the same yard and had built a red house.

So it dawned on me that this is the way the Bible is: The Bible is a lumber yard. Any man can go to this lumber yard and buy material to build any type or color or size of house he wants. Isn't that the way the churches treat the Bible? The Baptists, Methodists, and Presbyterians, and all the other churches go to the Bible to get their material!

So I went back to the Bible and looked again. I said to myself that its nothing but a bunch of lies, but then it came to me that many precious things, many good things, are buried or hidden in some negative things. Diamonds are found deep in the earth, pearls are found in oysters, but to find a pearl you must look through many oysters.

After meditating on these things I went back to the Bible and looked at those lies again. Then I found some of the most precious truths this planet has ever known. Throughout this Testament of Today, you can read these truths that I found so that you will not have to search like I did. We will be quoting from the Universal Translation.

The first truth that came to me is found in the book of Revelations, tenth chapter, eleventh verse, "And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples and nations and tongues and kings.", and tell them the mystery of God and of Christ. The time for John to return was when the mystery of God was finished. We all know that ten or fifteen years ago many people all over the country were saying that God is dead. This meant that God was no longer a mystery. God is dead. So let me say that it took me some time to admit and testify publicly that I was John the revelator. Let me say this so you might understand my meaning. Some people say that I have the spirit of John, others would say that I have the anointing of John,

some might say that I have the vibrations of John, others would say that I am reincarnated from John, still others might say I am impersonating John. But I know that the message he was to bring is the message I have been preaching.

Now I do not believe that the body of man is important, the message he brings is the important thing. This John was really to tell the world who Christ was, and where he was, and John the Baptist was to tell them who Jesus was. Now I know that this John was to come back at the close of the church dispensation, which is to be within the next twenty three years. Now let me give you a couple of quotes. One from Paul, found in Ephesians, Chapter one, Verse ten, "That in the dispensation of the fulness of times, he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth; even in him." We see from this verse of scriptures the reference to the end of the church dispensation. This will take place soon within the next twenty three years, we will explain this in a later chapter.

We find Paul again saying in Colossians, Chapter 3, Verse 3: "For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God." So we will have to find God to find Christ. When we find God will we find that Christ is in God? Then we will find Eternal Life because Christ is Eternal Life.

Here is another jewel; found in St. John's gospel 14:20, "At that day ye shall know that I am in my father and ye in me, and I in you". That is a precious jewel.

You will find many things in the Testament of Today that John was not allowed to write when he was here nearly two thousand years ago. The greatest hope of man and beast or any other creature

or thing is eternal life. In St. John; 17:3, the wrtier states that this is the life eternal to know thee, the only true God. This is my hope to you: I hope to get you to see the only true God, that you will have life eternal.

MYSTERY OF GOD

What is God? Who is God? Where is God? This has been one of the biggest mysteries to ever face man. We know that in the last days the mystery of God was to be finished. We can see from Paul's writings that the invisible things of him from the foundation of the world are clearly seen being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal Power and Godhead. The Godhead is substance, life, and intelligence. God is the substance, Christ is the life and the intelligence is what some people call nature. These three are one and cannot be separated in the real world. The reason that God is such a mystery to man is because man lost his conscience of who he (man) was.

We find Paul saying "to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us." God is everything to everyone. Some of the older writings have told us that God is truth, love, spirit, word, fire, everything. I say that God is everything. All substance from the smallest atom, is three dimensional. It has a body, the body has life and it has intelligence. I say that Christ is the life and God is the substance.

Again I hear them saying "in him we live and

move and have our being." According to Paul, "But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body." I say that all of the Godhead body dwells in us. Without us there is nothing. By us all things were created. All things that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers. All things were created by us and for us. In reality, man created God in his image and his likeness. God is a figurehead. I will give you a comparison; "I spake as a child, I thought as a child, I understood as a child, but when I became a man, I put away childish things." I give you a comparison. When I was a child I really believed Santa Claus was a real person. That he lived at the North Pole, had a long white beard, wore a red suit and came at Christmas time with toys for the good children. When I became a man I knew that I was Santa Claus. I was the one that bought what I needed and wanted, and for my children. In the same way I believed Uncle Sam was a person. I thought he was a man that wore striped pants and a tall hat with stars on it. -As I grew older I discovered I was Uncle Sam. When I was a child in Sunday school, I was taught God was a man living in a place called heaven. He would give me things if I was good and punish me if I was bad. After I became a man I began to think, read, and study for myself and found that I was the only God there ever was or would ever be. The only rewards I received were from myself and the only punishments I brought on myself. I know now that there is no other supreme being living in this body as I had been taught. This substance, life, and intelligence cannot be separated from the body. I hear Paul saying, "For I am persuaded, that neither

death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from God." Even though we make our bed in the grave we are not separated from God.

Let me make it clear about the two powers that man has to deal with, LIFE and DEATH. To me God is life and the Devil is death. We are conscious of death and how it works, but we are not conscious of life. We hear Paul saying, "we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers." At this time there is no power known unto man that is greater than death. We hear Paul saying again that life and death and all things are ours.

I do not believe that there ever was a beginning. I understand that science tells us we cannot destroy substance, we can only change its form. If this be true then this earth always was and always will be. The word eternal means having no beginning or end. So this substance had no beginning.

I do not believe the school of thought that everything started from one little cell. I don't believe this world came from one tiny cell; neither do I believe the school of thought that God created the world and everything that is in it by speaking it into being. I believe that man is eternal. There never was a time that man was not. When I speak of "man" I am not speaking of a male man, I am speaking of all people, both male and female. And I am not speaking of a single body you might see walking around.

There have never been words that can describe what man is. He is greater than words, greater than anything that he can imagine or think about.

He is greater than life because life is his. He is greater than death because death is his. He is greater than all things because all things are his.

This day is the day of awakening. I believe that everything that man will ever do or ever think about is already in his subconscious mind and as his conscious is awakened he realizes what he can and cannot do. Somewhere in the past the eternal part of man went dormant, and the negative part of man became active. This is what some people call the "fall of man".

WHAT IS MAN?

What is man? This has been one of the big questions to face human beings. As far back as man can remember we have tried to explain what man is. Let me say right here that the real person, the real I or the real you is that part of us we use to try to explain what the real person is. I am very curious that the real man that lives in this body is past finding out, it is past understanding greater than our intelligence, greater than substance, greater than God.

Many people believe that they are nothing, that they must accept Jesus or Christ and let him rule or run their lives. I feel sorry for those people because I've been there, I was once that way. Let me give you an illustration.

Once during the depression, years ago, I was hitchhiking through Louisiana around dark. I grew tired and found an empty boxcar parked on a railroad siding. So I crawled up into the boxcar and went to sleep. Later in the night I woke up and the boxcar was jumping and shaking. I thought I was going sixty miles an hour, and I

didn't know where. So I went to the door and looked out and saw that a freight train was passing by. All I was getting was the vibrations from that train.

What I'm afraid of is that many people of today are having the same experience; they just receive the vibrations and not the real thing! The thing that is so important for you to know is exactly who and what you are.

Infinity is something that is unlimited, something that is past knowing, like space, there is no end to it. That is the way we are: There is no end to us, we are past finding out. Let me show you what I mean. The Bible asks the question "which is greater, the man who builds the house, or the house itself?" Of course we know that the builder is greater than the building. We know that the earth was created by us and for us, so we know that we are greater than the earth.

But I hear these religious fanatics saying that God created this earth. Well, in a way he did, because he works for us! We thought of this and told him to do it and he did it! Remember God is all things to all people, God is all substance and all energy, but not intelligence.

Let me continue this by a statement from the Universal Translation. "For the Invisible things are made visible by man." From the foundation of the world man has been creating. When man creates he understands. He can understand even eternal power and Godhead by creating. As man explores the unknown he is understanding himself. As man explores new worlds and other planets he will understand himself more and more.

I want to tell you a little fable I learned from my experience with metaphysical religious groups. The sages were old men who were supposed

to have created the universe. So when the sages were putting the final touches on man they decided that man was not ready to have a soul. They decided first to hide the soul on the floor of the ocean, but one of the older sages said, "no, man will surely look on the floor of the ocean." Another said, "let's hide it on another planet." Then the oldest and wisest sage of all said, "Put the soul within man, because that is the last place he will ever look." Let me tell you that man is looking there now!

About ten years ago, one night after dinner, I was meditating along those lines. I became so deep in thought I found my soul. I say how great it is. I was turned on greater than I have ever been in my life. It was the ultimate great experience in my life. I looked to my conscious and began to find out who I was. From that night on I realized and became conscious that whatever happens, I know that the real me is eternal. I know that this is the time man's conscious is going to be awakened to who he is!

We used to say that God is past finding out, but God is substance. Look at these quotes from the scriptures: "That you might be fruitful and increasing in the knowledge of God", and here is an exact quote from the King James Version, Ephesians, Chapter three, verse nineteen, "And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that you might be filled with all the fullness of God." We find in Peter's writings that everything man has comes from the knowledge he has about God. God is something we can find out about and understand.

Can you understand that anything you have is not as great as you are? You are greater than anything you could possibly have. Anything you have

is subject to you! If you are conscious of this you have all that God is and we will be. You have life, but you must become conscious of it before it becomes active.

I can't believe in the supernatural. I believe in substance, some of it can not be seen, some of it you can see. Some people say I'm an atheist, they say that I don't love God. But I do love God. I love the trees and the mountains, the cars and buildings, all the animals and plants. I love all people especially one beautiful woman, and when I love all this I'm certainly loving God, because God is everything, all substance.

THREE DIMENSIONS

I have come to the knowledge that man is a three dimensional being. Man is of the earth, earthly, the same as all other animals which come out of the earth. If you have ever lived on a farm or lived in the country, or know anything about the animal world, you know that an animal's first and greatest instinct is to be free. Aren't we the same? Isn't your greatest instinct or desire to be free?

I hear more people right now hollering for freedom like they never hollered before. I'm sitting here now looking at the portraits of all the presidents, all of them promised us freedom, but there is no real freedom. Many people around the world have had their homes and land and governments taken away from them. Many religious people have had their religious freedom taken away. Many people are fighting to hold on to what little bit of freedom they have left. Many countries have fought for their freedom, they are still fighting. I still hear the cry of people all over the world "give me freedom...and there is no freedom.

The second major desire of all animals is food. When an animal is free he starts searching for food, don't you? An animal will kill for food. If he gets hungry enough he will even kill his own kind. He must have food to survive. Now let's look at man, man must have food also. Some men will work for food, others will steal food, some beg food but we all must have it. We know that the world today has a food shortage. If men become hungry enough, they too will kill for food. Men can become cannibals because men have the same nature as all animals. Just remember the story of an airplane crash in the mountains of South America. When the survivors ran out of food they ate the people who

were killed. This happened in modern times. The instinct of hunger is stronger than we are. If the food shortage gets any worse it will cause the greatest revolution the world has ever known. People will be fighting over the food that's left.

Let's look at man's third instinct or nature. The third instinct of man is sex. What does an animal do when he is free and has food? He looks for the opposite sex. Isn't that the way humans do? Sex is more prominent now than at any other time in our history. Much of our music has vibrations of sex in it. The books that are being published are written around sex. Even cars are sexy, toothpaste is sexy, mouthwash is sexy, deodorant is sexy. They are even making pads to put on your body to make your body more sexy. Sex is the most popular word in America today.

Pornography is everywhere. Homosexuality is becoming popular all over the country. Sex is even getting into the church. The churches are allowing ministers to be homosexual, which used to not be allowed at all. The church used to preach that sex was something very mystical and very sinful if you were not married. Premarital sex was absolutely not allowed, it was a sin. But now some people are finally waking up. Sex isn't bad, it's good!

I see where a Catholic priest and some laymen have written a book saying that premarital sex was not a sin under certain conditions. I myself do not believe it is a sin to have sex before marriage.

What we must do is see that every man and woman, every boy and girl are taught freedom. We must teach them where their freedom stops and where the other person's freedom begins. We must teach them how to be free and how to survive.

WHAT IS THE TRUTH

What is the truth? What can it do for us? We find that John wrote "ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." So since we are not free, we must not know the truth. We do know some of the truth, but not the whole truth, we have only partial truth. If we knew exactly what death was we could escape it. If we knew exactly what life is we could keep it forever. But let me tell you the story of my own search for the truth.

When I was a young boy, I went to a Baptist Church. They said "This is the truth, you need to repent of your sins and accept Jesus, then you must be baptized for the remission of sins." So one Saturday night long after midnight me and three other boys accepted Jesus as our personal saviour. The following Sunday, I was baptized in the river. Everybody thought it was a glorious and wonderful day. But the excitement and glory wore off before the week was over, and for the next few weeks I lived the most miserable life a young boy could imagine. The life of a Christian.

My parents told me what a Christian should be. A Christian couldn't lie, that was tough, he couldn't talk back to his parents, he had to do what ever they said without question. A Christian couldn't fight with his brothers, couldn't fight at school. Fighting was half my life! I was in total misery. After about two more weeks I gave it up. It was a number of years before I was 'saved' again.

But I always had the desire to become a preacher. I used to get drunk and preach on the porch of the general store in the community where I lived. I used to do some powerful big preaching when I got drunk. So after a number of years I tried the church again.

I was working at a big manufacturing plant and they were having prayer meetings in the boiler room. I was invited to become a member and it started all over again. That was about forty years ago. I preached my first sermon one Sunday in a Baptist Church.

After that were off I got married and joined the Holiness Church in California. While in California I was studying the Bible very closely. It was at this time when I came onto my first big doubt about the supreme God in heaven. There was a little girl named Cathy who fell down a well, and church groups all over the free world prayed to God to save her life. But she died anyway. This frustrated me very much.

After that I tried hard to believe in the Supreme God, but I just couldn't convince myself. Another time when I was in Birmingham, Alabama in front of the General Assembly, thousands of preachers were present. A young woman brought her baby boy who was very sick before the crowd and said that God had told her to bring that baby before those people and they would pray for it and it would be healed. So everybody there, half the preachers in the South, prayed for that baby...and it died. I was very, very frustrated. I soon left the church to study on my own.

From that time on I never believed God would answer prayers. So one morning I was speaking in a church and I said to the congregation, "Let's get an ax and chop that mourners bench up and burn it!"

About half the people got up and left when I said that. I told them that these religions were separating people. I told them that God saves everyone, not just one type of people. I realized then that I was moving in the right direction.

Slowly but surely I was getting to the truth. Another time I was at a big church at a fellowship

meeting, and they asked me to say a few words. I told them that I wasn't afraid of God, I told them that I wasn't afraid to call God a Son of a Bitch! Because if this God wasn't big enough to take a good cussin' he wasn't big enough to be my God! What I was doing was getting at the truth, little by little.

Soon I began to go to all different types of churches. I was seeking the truth. I wanted to be free. I came to realize that the only things which made me feel free were things that came from me. The things the other people told me only put me in- to bondage to their church.

All these different churches wanted to keep me in bondage, they didn't want me to be free. I went to the Seven Day Adventists and they wanted to keep me in bondage. Saturday was the Sabbath. They wouldn't let me eat pork. So that wasn't freedom, just more bondage. Next I went to the Church of Oneness. They told me I needed to be baptized in Jesus name, so I went through that again. They told me I had it all, but I had to give them ten percent off the top. They also told me I couldn't drink coffee or wine or smoke, or even look at pretty girls. They had me in bondage and hell.

Then I went to the Church of the Brethern. They told me the reason I couldn't find peace and freedom was because I hadn't been baptized right. They said I needed to be put under water three times face down. By this time I knew all the fish in the river. They had me wearing a big broad hat, told me I couldn't smoke, drink wine or look at a pretty woman. Their freedom was no better than the others, it was bondage again.

I went to yet another church. They told me the reason I wasn't saved was because I hadn't been 'Sanctified Holy'. So I made another trip to the

altar. When I got down I began to pray. They said, "Hensley, tobacco has got to go, the movies have got to go, magazines must go....on and on they told me all the things that had to go. I said, "It's gone", and they said "you are now Sanctified Holy!"

It lasted a couple of days, and then a beautiful girl came into my life and I knew it was all gone. I realized that I hadn't found any new freedom. It was still the same old bondage. But I wasn't through searching. Next I tried the Pentecostal Church.

They had music and dancing, people were jumping up and down. It was just like a big rock concert. I thought I'd found it. The preacher called me and said, "Hensley, we want you to come down to the altar tonight and be Sanctified Holy!" I told him that I'd already been Sanctified Holy and he said "Well, you only need one more thing, you need the baptism of the Holy Ghost!" He told me to listen to the people around me, they were talking in unknown tongues.

I thought these people must be free. So I started down the long road again. I was singing glory hallelujah all night long. About six o'clock in the morning I was lying on the floor still saying glory hallelujah. I said it until I didn't know what I was saying. They told me "you've got it, you've got it!" So I went home believing I had the ultimate truth. I was very excited. I became a jumping up and down Hell Fired and brimstone preacher but I hadn't stopped studying. I still had one more step to take. I still had one more church to go through.

I went to the Church of God. The preacher was telling us that Church of God was the only church that had the truth. They were the only church that would make it to heaven, because they were the only church with the right name.

I really wanted to go to heaven, so I started the trip again. They told me I had to be baptized again, so back I went into the river. I thought I was a complete man. I'd been saved, baptized, sanctified holy, I had received the baptism of the Holy Ghost and spoken in tongues and now I'd joined the only true church. And just like all the others it was the same old bondage one more time. I soon left the Church of God and that was the last time I was involved with a fundamentalist type of religion.

So I kept searching for the truth. I tried all types of metaphysical groups, but it was the same old story, "join our group and find the truth", just another type of bondage. My next step in finding the truth was when I became a positive thinker. I began to believe that everything was in the mind, and if you think about it long enough you would have it. I was always quoting this scripture, 'the way a man thinketh so he is'. This changed my belief in heaven. I brought heaven down to a state of mind. Heaven is just a dream world that many people live in. Let me tell you about an experience I had which will help you understand this.

I went back to North Carolina and there I met a beautiful woman. We started going out together, got to know each other well. After I took her home, I would have to drive forty miles back to where I lived. But that drive only seemed to be a mile. All I could think about was to get back to her. It was exciting, it was thrilling. I felt good, I felt wonderful.

One Sunday afternoon, we were driving along a river and I turned up a dirt road and drove to the top of a little mountain. I stopped the car under a big dogwood tree. The birds were singing, the flowers were in bloom, nothing was left out. So we sat down there and looked at each other silently. Then I

took her in my arms and died. All my life I had been living for that moment. That was when I realized the ultimate of reality, to be in love.

From that time on I could not think like I had before. The only thing I lived for was getting back to her. From that time on I have never believed in an invisible heaven. From that time on I've known that heaven is right here on earth. I realized that heaven is when you have what you want. I had found the truth.

But let me tell you. The truth is not always what you expect it to be. Though I realized I had found what I wanted (and I was soon married), I came to another truth. After a couple of months of marriage I started to divorce my new wife. I knew that I was a bad person, I was mean, I'd lie, cheat, I'd do anything. And I knew she was the best person on earth. She was an angel, nothing but good. So I thought if there was a good man on this earth she should have him. So I was going to divorce her.

We had 35 head of cattle and two horses that we took care of, and one day I came home from work and she came running up to the car. She was crying and her hair was down in her face. I jumped out of the car and said, "Honey, what is the matter?" "I've run those sons a bitchin' cows all day long!" she said. I shouted and jumped up and down because then I knew I had a wife and not an angel. From that day on she got worse and I got better and finally we became like one, we were equals. Now we're both bad! So I learned another truth; none of us are good, the only one I thought was good was just like me.

JESUS

At this time we should talk about the man Jesus. Who was Jesus? Adam was the man Jesus. Adam is referred to as the father of all men in the world today. But I do not necessarily believe that to be so. Because I hear Paul saying, "man was predestined before the foundation of the world." Adam came along and took the blame for man being in the shape that he is in. But really-- who was Adam? We find Jesus saying that he was Adam. In reality Jesus was manifested as the serpent. We find that the serpents message was that "you will surely not die." And that is also Jesus' message, it has been and still is. Let's look at what went on in the garden. God told Adam and Eve that they could eat of one fruit and live forever, and if they ate of the other they would die. But the serpent told them they would not die and it would make them wise. But we know what food they ate. Adam and Eve lost their consciousness, and death has reigned even unto this day. Jesus came along nearly two thousand years later still promising them eternal life. If he did not give people eternal life that time, why do people say he will give eternal life when he comes again?

Today many of the world's greatest religious scholars are saying that Jesus was not divine. This is nothing new to me. I've known it for years. Let me give you a couple of quotes. One from the old Testament in Isaiah: "A son shall be born and the government shall be upon his shoulders and he shall be called Counselor, the Mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." Who was given this title? It was given to Jesus.

John the Baptist was one of the first to say that Jesus was that man prophesied of. Jesus spoke many times "he that has seen me has seen the Father, because me and my father are one." To Jesus the words "God" and "Father" were synonymous. Jesus said that he and his father were one. Jesus took on the title of God.

The Jews questioned whether or not he was the true messiah and finally they looked for another Messiah, they are still looking. Jesus then began to preach and taught the Kingdom of God was at hand. Many people began to follow him and he built a large following. From that time his organization grew and eventually split into thousands of different groups. They all seem to think they alone have the truth.

Here is what I question: He came offering them eternal life. The same old story that happened in the Garden of Eden, "Eat of the fruit and you shall never die." Jesus never promised death, he always promised eternal life. There has never been a time in history that men have worked so hard and spent so much money trying to convert people to accepting Jesus as today. The Christians are still saying "if you accept Jesus you will have eternal life." Be honest with yourself; Do you know anyone who has eternal life?

According to the Gospel of St. John, "and this is life eternal that ye might know thee the only true God.", we are supposed to have eternal life if we know the true God. Since no one has eternal life, we must have known the wrong God! I know no one who has eternal life!

Another example is where Moses lifted up the serpent on the cross in the wilderness. Its the same old story. Moses tells them to look at the serpent on the cross and they shall live. Did he

give them eternal life? Are they living? No!
They all died.

And I still hear the Christians of today saying
"if you will accept Jesus you will have eternal
life."

Let me tell you now: Cursed is everyone who
was ever hung on a cross, and still is. There is
no eternal life in the cross because the cross
represents death. Let's look at the influence of
this man Jesus today. There has never been a man
who has lived on this earth who has had more writ-
ten about him, more songs sung about him, more
statues made of him, more prayers prayed to him,
more governments recognizing him. Why don't these
people receive eternal life? Are these religious
scholars of today correct when they say that Jesus
was not divine? I say yes! He was not the Christ!

We must understand the difference between Christ
and Jesus. Jesus has been mistaken for the Christ.
Christ and Jesus are not one and the same. Jesus
represents Death and Christ represents life.

According to the scriptures Christ was to ap-
pear twice, once at the beginning of creation and
once at the end of the world. When he appears the
second time, he will do away with all sin and
death. He has not reappeared because sin and
death are on the rampage! Since we are concerned
with Jesus at this time we will explain about
Christ later on.

Many people down through the ages have called
themselves God. If the true God had appeared man
would have eternal life. If Jesus had been the true
Messiah, or Son of God, he would have brought life
and immortality to light. But still I meet people
who tell me that Jesus is in them, and that he has
given them eternal life. They tell me I need Jes-
us in me and I can have eternal life. We are bury-

ing these same people all the time.

NOW comes the big question: Who was this man Jesus? Was he the antichrist who was to deceive the world? I tell you that this is the day you will know that he was the antichrist ! The scriptures say "there is a way that seemeth right unto man and the end there of is death." The scriptures are talking about Jesus! "If the blind lead the blind they will all fall in the ditch." The ditch is mighty full.

I want you to read from your own King James version of the Bible, second Thessalonians, Chapter two, read the entire chapter very carefully. You will find these statements about this man Jesus.

"Let no man deceive you by any means, for that day shall not come except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition."

All these "Jesus people" around the country are telling us to accept Jesus as Christ. They tell us to let him rule our lives, let him be your God, let him dominate you.

Thousands of people have let this man's influence rule and run their lives and they all have died not receiving his promise of eternal life. Paul is saying in this chapter that when the true Christ comes he will show who Jesus truly is. I tell you that this is the day when the true word is going out to all mankind. This is the day that the mystery of iniquity is working its final blow. This is to happen just before the coming of Christ.

We know that the true message of Jesus is being told. WE hear Peter saying "Gird up the loins of your mind and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus." The cover is finally being taken off of

this man, Jesus, so that we can see him for what he really is. He has tied up the progress of our country for four thousand years! For two thousand years before Jesus came religious fanatics would do nothing because they believed a man would come and deliver them from bondage. And nineteen hundred and seventy years since he came people have been doing nothing, waiting for Jesus to come and deliver them and take them away.

But I don't want to leave. I'm doing my best to stay here. Most of the people I know want to stay here.

THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS

The greatest moment for all believers in Jesus is the second coming of Jesus. This is when the battle of Armageddon will take place and Jesus will take the people back to heaven. Now let's look at what this second coming is going to be like.

Revelations, Chapter 19, verses 11-19 describes this second coming:

- 11 And I say Heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.
- 12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.
- 13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.
- 14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.
- 15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he

shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

- 16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.
- 17 And I say an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God;
- 18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.
- 19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse and against him that sat on the horse and against his army.

So this second coming of Jesus isn't such a pretty picture. People say that the blood will run up to the horses bit for 200 miles. I will tell you its going to be a pretty gruesome sight to see all the birds picking the flesh off all the men and women and children both small and great.

Jesus said, "I go to prepare a place for you and if I go I'll come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am may you be also". Now I really feel sorry for you who go and join his army. Jesus may promise you a beautiful city and a big fine house in that city... but you must remember, he promised eternal life, too, and you know what happened to that!

I have never read where Jesus said that you had to die to have eternal life. He always said, "I will die in your place so you won't have to die."

Now I'll grant you that Jesus must be a great lover, because all I hear from these religious people is how much they love Jesus. Jesus promises them anything and everything. Isn't that just like a lover?

Isaiah also wrote of the new heaven that all flesh would come to worship before the Lord. Read Isaiah 66:24 in your Bible.

Now is that the sort of place you want to spend all eternity in? Carcasses lying around with worms, and fires that cannot be quenched and all kinds of abhorring things.

THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

This chapter is concerned with the second coming of Christ, not the second coming of Jesus because Jesus and Christ are not the same.

What men want to know the most is how to have eternal life. The way to have Eternal Life is to understand who Christ is, what Christ is, and where Christ is. The word Christ means Life, especially Eternal Life, the good life, the positive life. The word Jesus represents the false life or negative life. I'm sure you are conscious of the negative side of life, but are you conscious of Eternal Life?

Let me give you some of Paul's writings to the Colossians. He said that in Christ dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead, and ye are complete in him, Ye are dead and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is resurrected in you, then you know that Christ is all in all.

Let me go back to the Garden of Eden and bring up this point. Christ was the first of Eternal Life. Christ was once offered to give man eternal life, and man rejected it. Christ appeared once in the beginning and Christ will return at the end of this dispensation of time, which is only twenty three years away.

So we once were offered Eternal Life in Christ, but we rejected it and followed the serpents advice and accepted Jesus instead. Once again at the end of this dispensation of time the Christ Life will appear again. Everything that exists is waiting and hoping for Eternal Life, but the Christ Life is dormant. We will become conscious of this when it is resurrected within us. When the right message is received it will awaken the Christ Life to become active in us. This is what some people call the second coming of Christ.

St. Peter said that Christ has given us all things that pertain unto life, even the divine nature. When you become conscious of Christ living in your body, then you shall know that you have Eternal Life. Then let no man dominate you, because all things are yours and all knowledge is yours.

You will have as much as Paul, or Peter, or John, or the world, life and death, all powers, and principalities, all things present and future, all are yours when you have become conscious that you have Life Eternal.

Ephesians Chapter 1, Verses 17-19: "That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power."

St John wrote "and of his fullness have we all received, and when we have come into the knowledge of Christ." We had this Christ life millions of years ago we were predestined to have Eternal Life. We have always had eternal life, but when we closed ourselves within this mortal body we lost the awareness or consciousness of Christ.

The Christ Life is still there waiting to be awakened. Ephesians Chapter 1 Verse 10, "That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him."

We see from this that it is all going to happen. Look up because we are near the awakening of this consciousness within us. Look up because we know

that we are only twenty three years away from Eternal Life.

Again we find Paul saying that the mystery of Christ which in other ages was not known is now being revealed in these last days. We should be partakers of this knowledge.

Listen to what Paul said to the Ephesians, "when Christ becomes active in love within you, at that time you may be able to comprehend with others the length and breadth and height and depth of Christ. We may know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge, that you might be filled with all the power of God. Then you will be able to do all that you can think of or imagine, because you have God working within you. This will all take place when you become conscious of Christ. We must endeavor to keep unity among the people. We know that there is only one God and one Christ who is above all, through all and in all, once we become conscious of Christ Life.

When we come into the recognition that this body is a son of God, when we come unto the full awakening of Christ, then we will have Eternal Life.

We hear Paul saying again that we have been separated from the Christ Life through the ignorance that is in the flesh. When Christ comes in the flesh then all this ignorance will go, and we will understand Christ perfectly. When you have put on Christ you have put on knowledge. Let me show you where Paul said we shall have eternal life. Paul said to the Philippian "being confident he which has begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Christ." Paul said he was praying for them that they might become more knowledgeable in all judgement about Christ. He made a promise that one day when Christ comes we will all be of the same mind and speak the same thing. This is how

Paul ends his letter to the Philippians. "But my God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in Christ."

Paul said to the Colossians that when Christ comes into your life you will feel as though you have transformed into another world. What really happens it that your conscious has been awakened. Then you will know that you have created all things that are in heaven, all things that are in the earth, whether they be thrones, dominions, principalities or power. All things were created by you and for you, and without you there was nothing created, and you will know that you were before all things. Then you will know that the word of God has been fulfilled. Even the mystery that was hidden through all time will be made clear to you. This is Christ in you, then all shall know that they shall have Eternal Life.

When the conscious within you has been awakened, then you shall know that there is neither bondage or freedom, neither Jew nor Greek, neither black nor white, neither rich nor poor, neither good nor bad, but that Christ is all and in all.

Paul ended his letter to the Colossians by saying "pray for us that there would be a door open where I might speak of the mystery of Christ". I tell you that this is the day when doors are being opened so the mystery of Christ can be spoken!

Paul said to the Thessalonians: "Brothers I would not have you ignorant concerning them which are asleep, those whose consciousness are dead. If we believe in Christ, that Christ is coming to waken those asleep for Christ shall descend into your heart and waken your conscious. The day of Eternal Life will come, for when they say peace and safety, then you know that the time is near for the coming of the coming of Christ. But Brothers we are not

in darkness, we truly know that the day is at hand.'

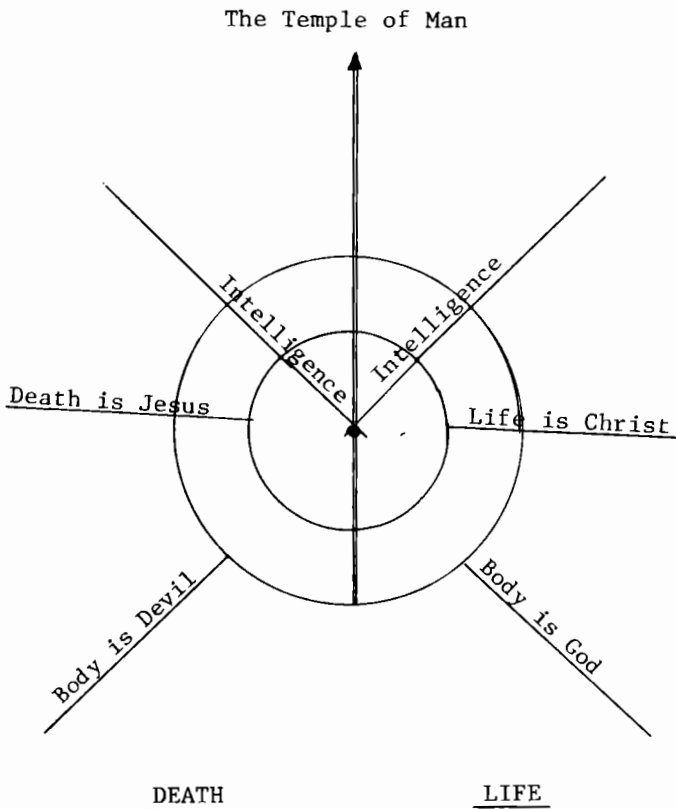
We find Paul making another grand statement.

"Christ shall come to be glorified in all the Saints and to be admired". When you are awakened to this coming Christ is not actually coming from some place, Christ is coming from that dormant part of you which is being awakened. When this awakening comes, we will see this evil pirate that has dominated our bodies and brought us death will have to go. The evil poser that is ruling this Earth today will go when we become conscious and awakened to who we really are.

Paul said to Timothy "But then it will be manifested by the appearing of Christ that death will be abolished and life and immortality are brought to light.

Then we will know that we are victorious over death, hell, and the grave. At that time you shall know who is that blessed and only potentate, that King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Eternal Fall The Death Today The Eternal
Past of Flo- of King- Future
Man od Jesus dom
of
Man



TIME

Time is one of the most important things man has to deal with. Time governs the lives of every substance known to man. I would like to explain the dispensation of church time. It is one week, or seven days, or seven thousand years, which are the three ways it is spoken of. God said he created the world in six days and on the seventh day he rested. In the same way, man has been working for God about six thousand years, and it's about time we got a break. The writer of the Hebrews said that the people of God would have a rest. I know with all my heart that rest is coming soon.

Now this six thousand years time zone was not the start of man on earth, it was just the start of the church dispensation. Man was here some time before he lost his conscious and became a slave to the church. Let me break down the periods of the church dispensation.

It has been almost two thousand years since the birth of Jesus. It was roughly two thousand years from the birth of Jesus back to what is known as the flood. Then it is another two thousand years back to the time that is known as the fall of man, or when man lost his consciousness of who God is, and who he is.

We are now less than twenty-three years away from the twenty-first century and the end of the church dispensation. At this time the church and the state will become one, the people will rise up against them and they will cease to be.

The church started out to bring peace and joy to all people, but the church lost its purpose. The state was set up to be an umpire, to see that everyone got a fair shake in this game of life. But when the umpire started playing the game we got into trouble. When the umpire can change the rules in

the middle of the game he can take advantage of the other players. Isn't that what the system is doing now? The church and state don't go by the written law, they go by what they want to do. I'm sick and tired of being told by this system what I can and cannot do. Let me give you a good example.

During the Viet Nam War, I went to Sacramento, California to help one of my ministers who was having trouble with the draft board. I met the young man on the street corner. He was dressed in a bur-lap bag, he had long hair and a beard and carried a tall cane. We went together to see the officials at the draft board.

When we arrived I asked the receptionist if I could speak to the man in charge. She couldn't believe that I was the real Rev. Hensley, and went to get another man. This other man asked me if I was the president of the Universal Life Church, and I said I was and he took the two of us up the stairs to meet one of the biggest men I've ever seen, the head of the Draft Board for the State of California. We were introduced and he asked:

"What can I do for you Rev. Hensley?"

I said, "Turn 'this boy loose, he's an ordained minister."

The man started to get mad and yelled, "He's not a preacher! "

"Well," I said, "if he's not a preacher, I'm making him one!" Then I said, "I want to ask you one question."

(The army man was mad as fire.)

"What's that?" he said.

I asked him, "Do you believe that Jesus was a preacher?"

He answered, "Of course Jesus

was a preacher!"
"Well," I said, "if you were to
sit Jesus down beside that boy
they'd look like twin brothers!"
The army man blew up. "Get the
hell out of here!" he yelled.

But isn't that just like the system? Trying to
tell us who is a minister and who isn't. I'm sick
and tired of it and I'm not going to take it any
more!

THE CHURCH AND STATE

We hear people every day saying that the church and state are separate. Let's look at this just a bit. What is a church? It is people, not a building. Wherever people congregate, whether it's in a barn or a store, or a house, people tend to call the building a church, but the church is not a building, it's people in the building.

What is the state? The state is the visible substance of God working in the material world. The ideal in the past has been that the church works in the spiritual or invisible world, but can you separate the two? You and I know that the church and state are one in the same only separated by name.

Listen to how the state salutes the flag: They say "one nation under God, indivisible". This word indivisible means that the state cannot be separated from God. Neither can the church be separated from God. For in God they are one, they are the same. The same blood that runs through the church runs through the state. The same spirit that flows through the church is also in the state. The same faith that's in the church is in the state.

We see the same things in both the church and the state. The state could not survive without money and neither could the church. We see the state has power and authority and rules over people, but does not the church have power and authority and use them to rule over people? Yes it does! The state makes laws, but the biggest law maker of us all is the church. I hear people everywhere saying that the punishment of the state is too harsh, that it is unjust. But look at this punishment. For one little lie, the church says you can burn in a lake of fire for ever and ever. Is that Justice?

So you see church and state are one in the same.

Let's look at the biggest clencher of them all: Look at our national motto, "In God We Trust". You find it on all of our money. This proves that state supports the same God as the church. They are one in the same.

Let me go a little further with this. I hear people every day screaming to high heaven about their constitutional rights, about the First Amendment. Who wrote this First Amendment? Which came first, the church or the state? The church told the state that they would support it and allow it to exist only if it would provide the First Amendment. The state takes its orders from the church. When a government official is sworn into office doesn't he take an oath and say "so help me God", with his hand on the Bible? This means that his security or bond is with God. God is the bondsman!

One more thought here. Everybody on this planet recognizes time. All time and dates are church business, and of course the state uses it. And I could show you many more ties, but I want to go on with one last illustration.

I'm sure we all know what Siamese twins are. They are two bodies joined together from birth, they are one flesh and they both come from the same source. Sometimes they have one body and two heads. This is exactly the way the state and the church exist. They have two heads, but one body. One cannot survive without the other. If we kill one the other dies. So it is with the church and state. If one is sick they both are sick. I tell you today that the church and state are sick and are ready to die. People all over the world are becoming dissatisfied with the church and state. I say that they both must go as we know them today. Then we can set up a way of life that will satisfy all men on this earth.

THE RESURRECTION

According to the book of Matthew, when Mary Magdalene went to the tomb of Jesus there was a great earthquake and a mighty angel appeared. The angel rolled away the stone from the entrance of the tomb and sat on it. The angel gave off great flashes of lightning and told Mary Magdalene that Jesus had risen. When she told the disciples that Jesus had been resurrected even they doubted it.

There is no record in St. Matthew's gospel that Mary Magdalene went into Jesus' tomb. But in St. Mark's gospel we find that she went into the tomb and saw a young man. When Mary Magdalene told the disciples Jesus had risen from the grave they 'believed not'.

When we look in St. Luke's gospel we find that when Mary Magdalene went to the tomb she found two men inside the tomb. Again the disciples were not satisfied there had been a resurrection.

In St. John's gospel Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw the stone taken away. Immediately she ran back to tell the disciples. She didn't mention seeing anyone in the tomb or any lightning or angels sitting on rocks. Also she first told the disciples that Jesus had been taken away, not that he had risen from the grave.

So now comes the question: Was there really a resurrection? Did Mary Magdalene really know what was going on? She tells the five different versions of the same story. First there was an angel on a rock, second there was a young man in the tomb, the third time there were two men, or were they angels? The fourth time she didn't see anyone and said that Jesus had been moved. And a fifth time we have Mary Magdalene looking into the tomb and seeing two angels. She turned from them and saw Jesus who she supposed to

be the gardener. After all this, I wonder if she really had seen Jesus if she would have known it. Somebody had their wires crossed there was not five resurrections.

We find Paul talking about the resurrection. Now this is quite some time after Jesus was supposed to have risen from the dead. Paul spoke to the Corinthians. They were debating whether or not there was a resurrection. Paul was saying if Jesus had not risen from the dead, then his preaching was in vain.

I ask you again, is the preaching of today in vain? YES! And since their preaching is in vain they are false prophets. "If Jesus be not risen, then their faith is in vain and ye are yet in your sins." We are still in our sins because sin brings on death. This same Paul said, "the wages of sin is death." So everyone still dies to pay for their sins. If in this life we only have hope in Jesus, we are of all men most miserable.

Paul said, "Death came by man, so by man also will come the resurrection." It is up to man to find out what death is and what life is. Once man is conscious of what life and death are he can do something about it.

Paul said to the Corinthians (I:15-24) "Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the Kingdom of God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule, and all authority and power."

According to St. John, Jesus said he had finished God's work. But I ask you, has all rule and all power been put under his feet? NO! Death and sin are still on the rampage! If the resurrection had taken place, God would be in every man and woman and he would be ready to do anything they could think to ask. You know and I know that this resurrection has not taken place. Jesus has not been resurrected.

Paul asked the Jews, why are people baptized for the dead if the dead don't rise? Paul complains

that if the dead don't rise, then all his work is in vain. He also said "Thou fool, that body which thou soweth is not the body that shall be." So Paul is saying that we don't need a resurrection. We aren't going to have the same body anyway. So why resurrect it.

Paul also said, "If sown in corruption, sown in dishonor, if sown in weakness, it is sown a natural body." So many people today believe this statement had references to the grave. When we are born we are born into corruption and weakness and dishonor. Our job on earth is to correct these faults before we go to the grave. The grave is the last stage of death, because we are living in a state of death today. If Jesus had risen from the grave, these faults in our bodies would be gone. As death comes by man so also must the resurrection. Come by man, not one man, but every man.

I want to give you a statement that Jesus once made. He said, "Father, glorify me with the glory I had with you before the foundation of the world." No where can you find that he was glorified because Paul said that we would all be glorified together. So Jesus could not be glorified until all people could be glorified together.

Let me give you another quote. Here is one of the most fantastic statements ever made about Jesus. "That we may have boldness in the day of judgement because as Jesus is so are we in this present world." As you know most churches preach that the resurrection is in the future. If it is, then Jesus is still in the grave, just like everyone else who has died. Aren't they still in the grave? Of course they are!! So is Jesus!!

Peter said that a day with Jesus is a thousand years and a thousand years is as one day. If this be true then we hear Paul saying that Jesus must stay in the earth two days, or two thousand years. On the

third day, or third thousand years he would be resurrected. So according to this statement we are still twenty three years away from the resurrection.

Paul said to the Corinthians that if Jesus had risen from the dead, he would have been a life giving spirit. He also said that which is spiritual is not first, but last, and that which is natural is first. When the resurrection comes, that which is spiritual will be first, and those things that are natural will be done away with. I ask you. Is that which is natural been done away with? NO! It has not been done away with. We are still bearing the image of the earthly. What is an earthly man? Every earthly creature, from man to the small animal has three main desires: They want to be free, they want food, and they want sex. Has that been done away with? NO! Those are my major concerns and everyone else's I know!!

Every living thing has feared death and wanted life. Paul said while speaking to the Romans "I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared to the glory that shall be revealed in us, at the resurrection."

Paul said that the entire creation, every living thing on this planet is groaning and suffering in pain, waiting for the time that these corrupted bodies, which all living things have, might put on eternal life. Our trouble is we know in part and understand in part. When the resurrection comes that which is in part shall be done away with. Then we shall know even as we are known.

Let me say now: I do not believe in the resurrection from the earth to heaven. I believe in a resurrection from within. A living person. I believe that the Christ Life will be resurrected in us. The resurrection is not jerking dead bodies out of the ground. The resurrection is when absolute good will be working within us.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Many people have asked me these questions:

Q Do you believe in God?

A Yes, I believe in God. Throughout this entire book, I've been explaining what God is.

Q Do you believe in the Devil?

A Yes I do, the Devil is the negative part of God.

Q Do you believe in Jesus?

A Yes I believe in Jesus. I believe that Jesus is the manifestation of the Devil. Jesus is the Anti-Christ who is dominating and ruling this world through the hearts and minds of men.

Q Do you believe in Christ?

A Yes. I believe that Christ is the external life laying dormant in man. Exactly as Jesus dominates man today, Christ will come to man to give eternal life in the bodies we have now. I believe Christ will come within a very short time.

Q Do you believe in life after death?

A I do not believe that life can die, only the body changes form, which is what some people call death. I do not believe the body is resurrected out of the ground. I believe the real you or the real person is eternal, having no beginning and certainly no end. The purpose of this Testament of Today is to awaken your conscious to this fact that you are eternal, that you are greater than anything you can think about. It is beyond understanding. It is power or time. It just IS!

Q Do you believe in Hell?

A Yes, I believe in Hell.

Q Do you believe in Heaven?

A Yes, I believe in Heaven. Let me explain. Heaven to me is when you have what you want, Hell is when you don't and you can forget all the rest!

Q Do you believe in Baptism?

A I don't believe it has any value or salvation in it at all.

Q Do you believe in eternal judgement?

A No. When you become conscious of who you are, you will correct yourself. You are greater than any judge.

Q Do you believe in "Divine Healing"?

A I believe in healing, but not divine healing. I believe you can be healed by your own conscious. Doctors and even ministers can help you heal yourself.

Q Do you believe in life on other planets?

A Certainly I believe there must be other planets with life on them. I believe someday that we will make contact with them.

Q Do you believe in tithing?

A No, absolutely not! I believe in complete free will offerings. You should pay only when you get something in return for your money.

Q Do you believe in marriage?

A Yes, I do.

Q Do you believe in Divorce?

A Yes.

Q Do you believe in capital punishment?

A No, absolutely not!

Q Do you believe in abortion?

A Yes, I do.

Q How about birth control?

A Yes, we need it. Birth control could be the answer to the population explosion.

Q Do you approve of premarital sex?

A Yes, under certain conditions.

Q Do you believe sex education should be taught in the schools?

A Yes, but the teachers should be qualified. Children should be advised about the problems they will have as they grow up. They should have the facts and the truth before they start their sex lives.

Q What is a church?

A A church is people, not a building. A church is when two or more people congregate. If they meet in a park or a house or on a hillside, it is still a church. The place doesn't matter, it's the people.

Q How do people become members of a church?

A That is carried on in almost as many different ways as there are different churches. Some baptize people into the church, other people just join the church. To be a member of the Universal Life Church all you have to do is acknowledge that you are a member, and you are.

I received a letter of criticism once, which asked why I let so many different types of people into the church. They thought I was letting "bad people" into the church. Well, I thought about this for quite some time. I saw a big school and I thought to myself, "a school is built for the uneducated, right? I looked a little farther and I came to a big hospital, and I thought, a hospital is built for the sick people, not those who are well. And then I thought about the church. The church is built for bad people, not good people. So if I was to come to my church on a Sunday morning and found the front row lined with winos and hookers and glassy eyed drug freaks, I'd smile real big, because I'd have the best church in town. I'm here to help these people. But if I got a church full of goody, goody self righteous types, I couldn't do a thing for them. I don't know their kind.

Q Do you believe in prayer?

A Yes. I believe in prayer, but I believe in cussing too. They both do the same job. Let me explain this. I used to be real big on prayer. I'd stay up all night praying so that God would anoint me and give me good messages. When I'd pray I'd get all the frustration out of my system. It felt real good. I'll admit that its a good release. When you're down and out and frustrated it does you good to get it out of your system. I never got what I was praying for but I always felt better after I was through. Many times I felt like God was not listening to me. But one day I realized that there never was anyone on the other end of the line. Have you realized that yet?

You can get the same results by going to a psychiatrist. It feels real good to lie down on a couch and confess all your sins. But the psychiatrist will just tell you its all in your mind, and once you know that you might as well confess your sins to yourself. I also said cussing would get the job done. Let me explain what I meant. When I was a young man, I never knew anyone who could keep up with me cussing. It was a great release. Let me ask you a question: When you get real mad, don't all those words come to mind? Why don't you let them out. You'd feel a lot better afterwards!

Q Do you believe in Faith?

A Faith is the greatest scapegoat there is,if something fails, then you can say, "Well, I just didn't have the faith!"

THE COMING KINGDOM OF MAN

This is the day all men have waited for since we arrived on this planet. Let me give you a quote from Hebrews: "Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this word, Yet once more signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain." And that is what we are doing today. WE are going to show how sickening this old church-state system is. It does nothing but keep men in bondage. This the one day of freedom.

Peter said that there will be an entrance into the everlasting kingdom where all men will go. Peter also said, "Gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ." We are going to cry out from one end of this country to the other and expose this man Jesus for who he is. We will expose this whole system for just what it is!

This country has never had a revival like the revival this is going to be. This revival will shake the very foundation of the planet. Men have been in bondage long enough! Listen to what Peter said about being born again..."not by a corruptible seed-but, by an incorruptable seed." We are going to give them a seed to start this revival which will bring in the New Kingdom of Man. Peter has told us that we have a salvation in reserve for us. It will be revealed in the last days, and these are the last days!

Paul told us in Ephesians that this would happen at the end of the dispensation of the fullness of time, "Look up for your redemption draweth near

when you see earthquakes, famine, and wars, for your kingdom is near." When I see all the corruption in government, from the dog catcher to the President, when I see wars and death on the rampage, I look up and I'm happy, because I know this kingdom is near.

We find Paul saying that he has made known to us the mystery of the kingdom. Paul also said that we once ruled as kings and we would rule again. I tell you that we will rule very soon. I know because everywhere I look I find people are becoming conscious that this church/state system is not the answer.

We find Paul saying to the Galatians that as long as you remain a child you differ nothing from a servant, though you be lord of all. I am tired of being a servant. I have served the church/state system for too long. I am no longer a child, and the yoke is becoming heavy. I am ready to throw the yoke off and declare that I am no longer a servant.

A former President once told us not to ask what the state could do for us, but what we could do for the state. Is that the way you really want it? NO, a million times NO! We pay the state to be our servants! We want the state to do for us, not the other way around.

This system is ours, it belongs to us. Here is a quote from the scriptures, "For by us all things were created, whether they be thrones, or dominions, principalities or powers." All things were created by us and for us, and I want them back! We are going to tell the people of this planet that the earth belongs to them! We are going to tell the church the truth, that we are not working for God, God is working for us! Let me give you an exact quote from Corinthians 15:28,

this is from the Universal Translation or the Standard Revised Version: "That God may be everything to everyone"...so, if God is everything to everyone, God is working for us, ready to do anything we want.

Somewhere back in the past the church began to tell us God was up in the sky somewhere and we had to beg him before we could get anything. Slowly we began to believe this. So we lost the knowledge of who God is. But now the knowledge of God is going to cover the entire world. Then, when our minds are free, we will know that we are all kings. This knowledge will deliver people from the power of darkness and bring them into the Kingdom of Man. This Kingdom of Man will come when we have an understanding of God and of Christ, of the devil and Jesus. We will come to understand that God is substance, Christ is the life in that substance, and we will come to know that Jesus is the manifestation of the Devil working in man today!

We find that Luke wrote, "this kingdom comes not from observation, but the Kingdom of God is within you." This kingdom isn't someplace you can visit, the kingdom of God is within us! Man must be awakened to the God that is in him.

Let me give you a comparison. In the real world man is subject to the laws of nature. As long as man remains ignorant of the nature of the law, he is subject to the law, but the minute man understands the nature of the law the law becomes subject to him. This is the exact same way man must deal with the nature of God. When we understand that God is in us, God becomes subject to us, and God becomes our servant!

THE NEW HEAVEN AND THE NEW EARTH

The first thing we must do is to study the past, then we can understand the present and predict the future. This is one of my predictions: I predict that the church and the state will fall sometime between now and the next twenty three years, before the twenty first century. I hope that it won't go by violence. I think we can show how corrupt it is and the American Taxpayers will shut the money off and the church and the state will die.

We can talk about the new earth all we want to, but first we must see that this old system is out of the way. There are two things which govern America. First the Bible governs the church and the constitution governs the state. Let's look at the Bible and the church. Who interprets this Bible? Naturally it's the ministry. Its only been a short time in history since the laymen in the church have been able to read the Bible for themselves. When the laymen began to read the Bible all kinds of new ideas and doctrines began to spring up. When this happened all these new religions started to fight each other. One day I was meditating and it dawned on me that the way to change the church was to get the truth in the hands of the ministry. Then the ministry will change the church from the inside.

So this Testament of Today is going to put new ideas into the church. The truth will finally be told. They will see and understand that the church system has not brought them peace and love and joy, and especially eternal life. When the church and the state become one they will destroy themselves, and then we will have peace.

Let's look at the state for a moment. They wrote a constitution over two hundred years ago. That

constitution was written to see that everyone gets a fair shake. But you know, and I know, that it doesn't happen that way. The constitution is too far away, and costs too much money for the little guy to ever receive anything from it. Who interprets the constitution? Lawyers do, and who do lawyers work for? Lawyers work for the man who has the money. So the constitution is fine if you have lots of money.

We have literally thousands of lawyers in the Universal Life Church. Soon we will be opening up a Universal Life Church Law School so we can have more lawyers out working to help bring on the new Kingdom of Man. In this new Kingdom of Man, the whole planet earth will become one nation. Justice will work throughout the entire world. We will write a new constitution. There are three things that this new constitution must provide for.

First, it must be dedicated to the freedom of all people everywhere. Second it must be dedicated to see that all the food of the planet is equally distributed so that all might eat. Third, it must be dedicated to seeing that every person has the right to have a mate, so that we can be fulfilled and complete. It takes all these things to see that a person is fulfilled.

These are the only constitutional rights we need. I don't care if you are in the darkest jungle or on fifth avenue, when people are without these three things then there is trouble.

In this new Kingdom of Man we will do away with paid governments and paid churches. There will be no more war, no more hunger, crime will drop ninety percent and someday it will completely disappear.

Today, in the animal world all animals will fight to protect their freedom. Men too will fight

to protect their freedom, what little they have. Animals will fight over food, so will men. All animals fight over sex, men will too if it comes down to it. The way to have peace in the new Kingdom of Man is to see that these three things are available to all people. When we have this we will have peace.

Many people have believed that the church was to bring peace. The church has never brought peace and never will! The church is one of the biggest war makers of all time! If you don't believe this just read some history. You remember I said to study the past before you can understand the present. When I study the history of the church I see nothing but war and killing. There was so much murdering, its sickening. Is this what you want for the future? When I look around today, I see that the present is worse than the past. I hope it comes to an end very quickly.

Has the state brought us peace? No, it has done nothing but take your money and put you in bondage. Many people cannot understand what bondage is, they don't know they are in bondage. You must get out of bondage and look back at it before you can understand what it is. Now lets look back at the history of the state.

As far back as man has recorded history of the state where there have been governments that were supposed to bring freedom to man. But you know and I know that there is no absolute freedom anywhere in the world today. In some countries there is less bondage than in others, but it is still bondage. The state keeps us in bondage because it is corrupt.

I once made a statement on national television that Richard M. Nixon was the greatest man who ever

lived. This really shook them up. They said I was crazy, but let me explain why I said it.

In 1972 Richard Nixon was elected President with the biggest majority of all time. The entire free world was looking to Richard Nixon as a leader of the modern world. It looked like they had found a man that could unite the world. Only a few months after he was elected all hell broke loose. This is why I think Nixon was such a great man: he exposed the whole mess!

If Nixon hadn't exposed the corruption in our system, we would still be believing in the government! I have spoken at many of the nations greatest universities. I have talked with students and professors, movie stars, all kinds of public figures, I've talked with judges and governors, congressmen and senators. They realize that there is something seriously wrong. They know that there must be a change, and it must come soon.

We must look beyond the twenty three years to see this great fantastic dream. I realize that only a few people have been able to see that far ahead. I believe that Martin Luther King, Jr. was one of those few who could see that day when all men would be free. I believe that day is today! This message of freedom is burning in the hearts of men all over the world.

In America it started over ten years ago. We heard the black people cry for rights and freedom. They cried so loud they were finally heard, and the system began to change. The Chicanos have been crying, the Indians are crying out, and they too are being heard.

But when is the taxpayer going to cry out? He is crying now, but not loud enough. When the taxpayers get the knowledge that there is a better way, that there is a better system, then he will do something about it!

I've heard people say, "Hensley, you're getting into politics." Well, if you were to read the Bible from Genesis to Revelations, you'll find over half of it is politics.

The church and state have always been fighting between themselves for the upper hand in controlling our lives. They will continue to fight until the day they fall. I am ready and willing to give every ounce of strength I've got to show how corrupt this church/state system is. Now I want to explain something, when I say, "the church/state system is corrupt", I don't mean every last individual in the entire system is evil. There are a few good people in the church and a few good ones in the state, and I certainly appreciate their support. They tell me "Hensley, stay in there and keep fighting, we're behind you one hundred percent." If they were to denounce the system individually it would cost them their jobs. For instance I had the dean of a major university tell me "Hensley, I'm working for you and with you, but I can't be identified with you." I've had judges tell me the same thing. They've all given me encouragement and convinced me that I'm on the right track.

I haven't got time to tell you all that I think will happen when we have the New Kingdom of Man. But let me tell you it is not going to be any one person or group of people who will decide what this new kingdom will be like. All the people will decide.

Let me give you one closing thought. I believe that positive and negative forces balance each other out. If this is true then we will have a new positive system that equals the negative that we have had. That is, the new system will be as

good as the old system was bad.

Whether you believe that God, or Jesus, or we, are going to bring in this new system, believe that whatever power that has brought us this far is certainly going to see us through.